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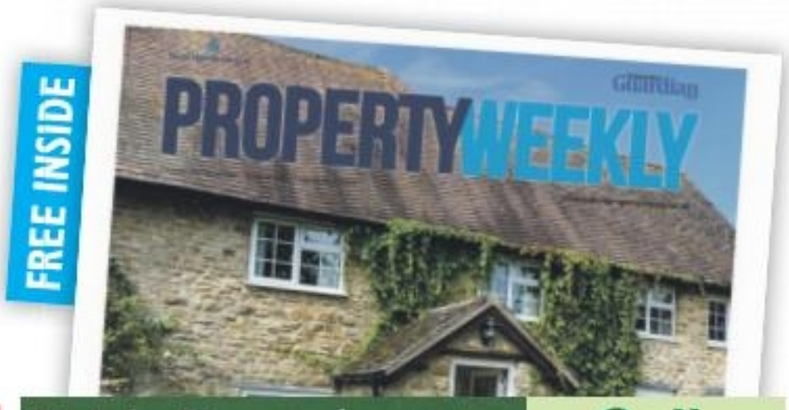

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New rail link to open on Monday
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Brick building found hidden for decades

Can you help solve mystery of structure?

By Samantha McGregor

PEOPLE are being asked to help identify a "brick structure" which was recently found buried under ivy at a former bomber command training base.

The building has recently been discovered at Bicester Heritage, the former flying field site at RAF Bicester, off Buckingham Road.

The 1926 site was one of the RAF's first bases and was a Bomber Command training base during the Second World War.

It was later used by the MoD as part of Bicester Defence Storage and Distribution centre.

The site was split into two – the offices and former accommodation blocks, called the domestic site, and the airfield, called the technical site.

The domestic site was sold to a developer for housing in 2010 and in 2013 a consortium led by Daniel Geoghegan of Bicester Heritage bought the technical site for £3.25m.

Its plan is to create a historic motoring and aviation centre of excellence.

The technical site has more than 50 buildings, including aircraft hangars, air raid shelters, workshops and station

• *Continues on page 3*

> We would love to dig deeper into the story of this structure

• People are being urged to help identify a mystery building that has been hidden under shrubs for decades

Taking the plunge into Christmas celebrations

Christmas just wouldn't be the same without the big lights switch on and doing the honours in Thame were mayor Linda Emery, town Santa trail winner Holly Stafford, eight, Father Christmas and panto-star Aladdin who pushed the plunger to officially launch the festive season.
See page 21 for more

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Student dies on ski trip to French resort

By George Welch

TRIBUTES have flooded in for an Oxford University student who died on a ski trip in France.

Friends found Matt Smith, a 22-year-old history undergraduate at St John's College, after he had a cardio-respiratory arrest on Sunday, according to local reports.

The student was treated by emergency services at 8am local time but the skiing enthusiast could not be saved.

Matt was just one of thousands of students from Oxford and Cambridge universities attending the annual week-long Varsity ski trip, which dates back to 1921.

He died at his accommodation in the Val Thorens resort in the Alps and tributes have been paid by friends and family.

His father, Howard Smith, a financial consultant, told the London Evening Standard he would be flying out to France as he tried to come to terms with his son's sudden death.

He told the Standard: "The most important thing for us is that Matt was with his friends. His friends meant so much to him.

"He was with everybody skiing, close to the snow, doing what he loved."

Childhood friend Sam Hoskin took to Facebook to say: "From spending every day of summer crashing yours or going on every ski trip together since we were 10. You were my very first best friend and I will always cherish every memory from our childhood. Rest in peace brother x."

Another friend, Glenn Tamkin, said: "What we have once enjoyed, we can never lose – I love you so much man."

Matt's brother Harry wrote: "I love you so much, Matt. Rest well above the clouds."

An Oxford University spokesman said: "We would like to express our deep sadness at the tragic death of Matt Smith, and send our condolences to his family and friends.

"While we await the findings of the official investigation. we are offering support to students who may have been affected.

"Members of the college were invited to gather yesterday (Sunday) to remember him, and any member of the college who is particularly affected by this sad news has been encouraged to contact the chaplain or any member of the welfare team."

The Foreign Office said it was supporting Matt's family and had made contact with local authorities.

• *Matt Smith, right and left, and, above, with brother Harry Pictures: Facebook*

Annual campaign aims to catch drink- and drug-drivers

THE annual campaign to deter motorists from driving while under the influence of drink or drugs has been launched by Thames Valley Police.

The force is working with Hampshire Constabulary to deter and detect behaviour behind the wheel that puts lives in danger on the roads.

Every driver involved in a collision will be breathalysed by police, and officers will make extra patrols based on intelligence about suspected offenders.

These policing tactics are designed to be a deterrent to any motorist thinking about driving while impaired through the effects of alcohol or drugs.

During patrols carried out between December 1, 2015, and January 1, 2106, 297 people were arrested on suspicion of drink- and/or drug-driving.

Since 2011, there have been 46 fatalities on roads in the Thames Valley Police Force area in which alcohol or drugs may have been a contributory factor.

Thames Valley Police's road safety lead, Sgt Chris Appleby, said: "Drink- and drug-driving kills or injures people.

"Drivers who drink or take drugs and cause deaths on the road can be sentenced to years of imprisonment.

"Losing a loved one to drink or drug-driving devastates the victim's families – think about their pain when sitting at the dinner table on Christmas Day and someone is not there because of an act of drink- or drug-driving.

"Members of the public can help by passing us vital information and help us take these drivers off the roads by calling police on either 101 or, in an emergency, 999.

"Our message is simple – don't mix drink or drugs with driving – #ItsNotWorthTheRisk."

If any member of the public suspects someone is driving while impaired by drink or drugs, please take action to report details to police.

Call Thames Valley Police on 101 or text 80999 with details of the vehicle, driver, location and times. In a life-threatening emergency, always dial 999.

If you wish to remain anonymous, call the independent Crimestoppers charity on 0800 555 111.

• Firefighters and the road safety education team at Oxfordshire County Council's Fire and Rescue Service have been offering guidance on how to avoid drink-driving and how to keep you and other road users safe.

Catch their advice on Monday at Sainsbury's at Heyford Hill from 10am to 12.30pm and at Carterton Community Centre from 8.30am to 12.30pm.

Fatal crash charge

A MAN has been charged with causing death by dangerous driving after a three-year-old girl suffered fatal injuries in a multiple pile-up on the A34.

Thomas Hunter, 58 of Mansfield Road, Mansfield, was arrested on August 25 after the eight-vehicle accident near Hinksey Hill.

Three-year-old Isla Wiggin died in hospital two days later.

Her pregnant mum also lost an unborn baby in the incident. The 31-year-old was taken to hospital to be treated for serious injuries.

Originally arrested in August on suspicion of causing serious injury by dangerous driving, Hunter answered his bail on Monday this week and was re-arrested on suspicion of causing death by dangerous driving and then charged.

He has been released on bail to appear at Oxford Magistrates' Court on January 17.

The crash happened two weeks and one day after three children and a mum died in an eight-vehicle pile-up on the A34 about 15 miles south, near East Ilsley.

Lorry driver Tomasz Kroker, of Tarjan Walk, Andover, was jailed for 10 years for four counts of causing death by dangerous driving.

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Mystery over brick building

• From front page

officers' building, and buildings at the site have been listed as scheduled ancient monuments by English Heritage.

Bicester Heritage has been working to restore the buildings to their former glory, and has received a grant of almost £40,000 to help fund the work.

Now the owners have found a new structure and they want to know when it was built, what it was used for and what it used to look like.

Philip White from Bicester Heritage, said: "We would love to dig deeper into the story of this structure.

"We don't know what it was used for or when it was constructed, but we hope that someone will know what purpose it served, particularly as it is in such a prominent location on the edge of the airfield and must have been visible from the road."

The structure dates from between the late 1930s and the end of the Second World War and measures four metres wide by four metres deep and is partially collapsed.

It has damp-proofing measures to keep it watertight, which is different from all the other brick structures on site.

The building does not appear on wartime RAF maps of the site but aerial photos show it had been built close to the fuel stores by December 1946.

Anyone who can help solve the mystery should email hq@bicesterheritage.co.uk or call us on 01869 327 928.

Legendary campaigner George Parish dies

Tributes paid to true 'man of the people'

By Samantha McGregor

TRIBUTES have been paid to the "legendary campaigner" and former councillor George Parish.

Mr Parish died on Saturday, November 26, having battled with Alzheimer's disease for several years.

He served as a Labour councillor for the Banbury Ruscote ward at Cherwell District Council for 22 years from May 1990 to October 2012 when he stood down.

Mr Parish was also the district council's chairman in 2010/11 as well as a Banbury town councillor and former mayor, and was awarded an Honorary Burgess of Banbury.

But it was his successful campaign to stop services at Banbury's Horton Hospital being downxgraded in 2008 that endeared him to the people of the town.

Cllr Sean Woodcock, Labour Group leader, said: "Everyone in Banbury will be feeling an immense sense of loss at George's passing.

"He is rightly remembered as the man who saved the Horton Hospital. For this, the town and wider area, took him to their hearts.

"This was not difficult. His innate warmth and jovial character meant that he was, almost literally, friends with everyone he encountered."

In a statement, Keep The Horton General campaign group said: "His work for the cause was tireless and inspirational but perhaps his greatest strength was his ability to get on with everybody.

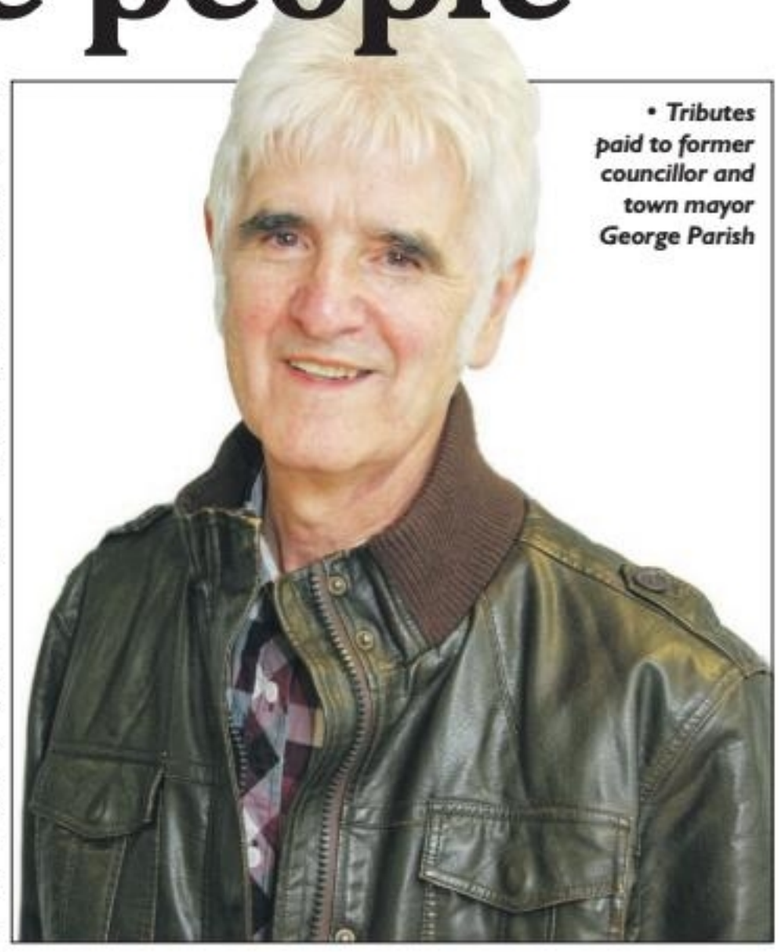
"The description 'man of the people' fitted him perfectly. It was a privilege to work alongside such a great man."

Kieron Mallon, leader of Banbury Town Council, said: "He was a man who would not give up the fight even when success seemed far away – and the decision in 2008 to not downgrade the Horton was a just reward for his tenacity and enthusiasm.

"But for illness, we know that George would have been involved in the current Save the Horton campaign.

"We should remember that George's talents ran far deeper than campaigning.

"He was a long-standing councillor who was admired and respected by his fellow councillors and by his constituents.



• Tributes paid to former councillor and town mayor George Parish

"He was a gentleman and a family man and one of the town's most popular mayors when he served in 1995-96."

Cllr Barry Wood, leader of Cherwell District Council, described Mr Parish as a "very conscientious councillor" who was respected by members of all political parties.

His funeral is due to take place on Tuesday, December 13, at 1.30pm, at St Mary's Church.

News Bites

Energy garden

BICESTER: Residents and community groups who took part in an energy efficiency survey are having their green spaces rejuvenated with the help of free gardening vouchers.

Cherwell District Council is one of the partners supporting the Data Driven Local Energy Mapping for Urban Retrofit (LEMUR) project, which developed an assessment tool looking at different energy-efficiency retrofit measures.

A pilot study conducted in Bicester analysed people's energy usage to find out how to make homes healthier and more fuel efficient, with participants winning garden vouchers in return for their input.

Among the winners was Bicester Health and Wellbeing Centre, which has used them to buy a statue for its garden.

Food survey

N OXON: Food businesses could be in with a chance of winning a food safety course by answering a survey about Cherwell District Council's support services.

The five-minute questionnaire is part of the council's drive to help businesses comply with food and health and safety regulations, as well as save money.

Every business completing the survey will be put into a draw to win one of three CIEH eLearning courses in Level 2 Food Safety in Catering.

The survey is open until January 6, go to Cherwell.gov.uk

Retailer donates extra festive lights

BICESTER Village owner Value Retail has donated about £6,000 worth of Christmas decorations to the town centre.

The move is part of on-going efforts to forge a link between the designer outlet and Bicester's retailers.

Value Retail funded an extra Christmas tree and lights to be displayed in Sheep Street, outside the Methodist Church.

Cllr Lynn Pratt, Cherwell's lead member for estates and economy, said: "Bicester Village attracts millions of shoppers every year so as part of on-going work to revitalise the town we are working closely with Value Retail to look at ways we can capitalise on that footfall by enticing people into the centre."

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Vale plan to be adopted

By George Welch

PLANS to build thousands of new homes in Oxfordshire have been given the green light by the Government's planning inspector.

Vale of White Horse District Council has been given approval for part one of its local plan, which sets out where around 20,500 homes will be built over the next 15 years, up until 2031.

The plan allocates sites for development up to 2031 and was largely unchanged by the inspector.

Included in the plan are about 1,500 homes on greenbelt land near Abingdon, Radley and Kennington.

However several areas, including Cumnor and Botley, which were going to be removed from the greenbelt have been protected.

The biggest development is for more than 2,500 homes near Harwell, known as Valley Park.

The Vale expects to adopt the plan at a council meeting on December 14, with the final plan to be published the following day.

The Vale said the plan would ensure communities are more protected from speculative developments.

The Planning Inspectorate has written to Vale confirming the plan has been found sound and can be adopted by the council, subject to modifications.

Once the plan is adopted, the district's five-year land supply will be secure and major development should only happen in areas identified in the plan, the council said.

This means the Vale will have much greater control over what developments are allowed to be built.

Cllr Matthew Barber, leader of the Vale, said: "After a process that has taken several years and has seen communities across the Vale contributing to the Local Plan we are now in a position to have much greater control over all development in the Vale.

"Adopting the Local Plan not only gives the council more control over where housing is delivered, but also makes it easier to secure the much needed infrastructure funding that should go with it."

As part of the approval, the inspectorate recommended:

- Clarifying the district's approach to unmet housing needs from other districts
- Removing three housing allocation sites from the plan, which includes the south of East Hanney, north west of Harwell Campus and east of Harwell Campus sites
- Safeguarding land to the north of Longworth for a possible strategic storage water reservoir.

In spring next year the Vale will consult on the preferred options for part two of the Local Plan – this will cover allocating sites to meet Oxford City's unmet housing needs.

The inspectors' full report can read at www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/localplan

Have your say online

• Picture OFRS

Cow rescued from river

THE emergency services have urged people to contact them if they see an animal stuck in water after a passer-by tried to save a cow in the Wharf Stream in Eynsham.

The cow became stuck beside deep water shortly before 8.30am on Sunday and a passing runner reportedly jumped in to try to rescue it.

A specialist rescue team entered the water in dry-suits and used rescue slings and harnesses to secure the animal and bring it back onto dry land with the help of firefighters on the riverbank. The cow was unharmed.

The incident commander, watch manager Frank Patterson, said: "All rescues from water are hazardous, especially in such cold conditions. We have rescue teams specially trained and equipped to deal with emergencies like this. If you see an animal in water and unable to get itself out, call 999 and ask for Fire and Rescue. Do not attempt a rescue alone – you will put yourself in danger and may need rescuing yourself."

Second Blackbird Leys primary school is branded as 'inadequate'

A Blackbird Leys school is in special measures following a damning Ofsted report found pupils were 'not prepared for life in modern Britain'.

Inspectors judged Orchard Meadow Primary School to be inadequate in its leadership, teaching, welfare and overall outcomes for pupils.

It also found early years provision needs improvement.

The Wesley Close school is the second primary in the Blackbird Leys area to be placed in special measures after Windale was rated inadequate in March 2015.

From their mid-October visit, inspectors criticised Orchard Meadow for its low standards in reading, writing and mathematics in a curriculum that 'restricts a broad spectrum of learning'.

It added that, in addition to too few pupils exceeding expectations for their age, poor behaviour of too many pupils "remains a significant area of concern".

Further, too many pupils do not attend school regularly and certain leaders are inexperienced in their roles.

On the other hand, the report said the new headteacher, Cathy Godden, "has quickly and accurately assessed the school's position and is already taking appropriate and decisive actions to bring about improvement".

It added that its early years provision has improved this year as a result.

In a statement, the Blackbird Academy Trust, which runs Orchard Meadow, Windale and Pegasus Primary School, said: "The new senior leadership team and the trustees of the Blackbird Academy Trust recognise that significant further work is needed to bring about sustained and consistent improvement across all year groups at Orchard Meadow School.

"To achieve this, together with staff and parents, we plan to build on the reported strengths and improvements now emerging at the school.

"We remain totally committed to ensuring the best possible start to their education for all children in the academy across The Leys."

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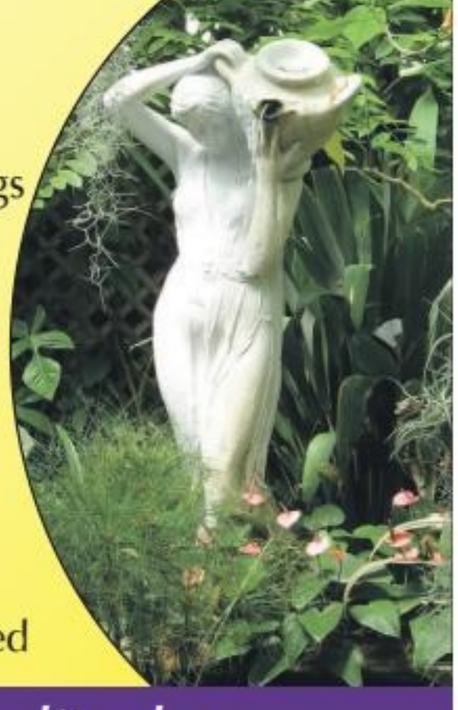

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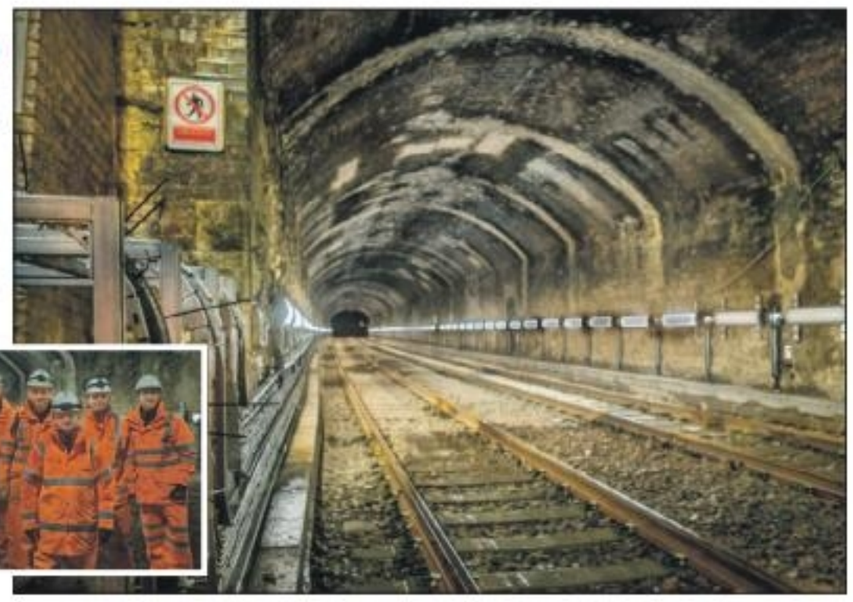
Countdown to rail link start

By Samantha McGregor

IT'S the final countdown for the launch of a new £320m rail link connecting Oxford with London Marylebone via Bicester.

When the line opens on Monday, December 12, it will become the first new rail link between London and a major city for more than 100 years.



• *The new rail link between Oxford and London opens on Monday*

The final section of new track was laid on Monday, November 21, at 2.37am.

The launch of the service from Oxford rail station follows the start of train services between Oxford Parkway, near Kidlington, in October.

Chiltern Railways will operate the Oxford-to-London service, which will see two trains an hour to the capital.

The journey time between Oxford and London Marylebone is expected to be 66 minutes.

Locally, trains from Bicester Village Station to Oxford Station will run twice an hour, with the journey is expected to take about 16 minutes.

It has previously been said the new line could help reduce traffic on the A34 as it gives commuters a fast alternative way to travel from Bicester to Oxford.

Commenting on the launch, Dave Penney, managing director of Chiltern Railways, said: "Over 10 years in the making, this is a major milestone for both Network Rail and Chiltern Railways.

"The current service from Oxford Parkway has been phenomenally successful with over 1.5 million passengers using the line to date."

Mr Penney said: "The completion of the historic project provides an alternative route to London for over 100,000 people and reopens a key commuting line between the growing town of Bicester and Oxford."

The launch of the Oxford Parkway to London Marylebone service marked the first half of the rail project.

The new station constructed at Water Eaton has 1,500 car-parking spaces.

Both the Bicester Village and Islip stations along the Oxford-to-Bicester line were also re-built.

The project was initially led by Chiltern Railways, but it partnered with Network Rail which contributed £190m to improving the rail infrastructure.

Martin Frobisher, route managing director for Network Rail's London North Western route, said: "This railway upgrade will boost business and create exciting new opportunities for people in the Oxford region."

Police issue witness appeal over death

POLICE have published a list of specific witnesses they wish to speak to as part of their investigation into the death of Eamonn Anderson.

The 56-year-old, who was assaulted on his bicycle in Oxford's High Street on October 25, died in hospital on November 11.

Six people have been arrested in connection with his death.

But police say they want to speak to several witnesses who were in the area at the time of the attack as part of the continuing investigation.

Det Chief Insp Mike Lynch, of the Thames Valley Police's major crime unit, said: "Firstly, we believe that there was a couple walking along Queen Street at about 10.55pm in the direction of Bonn Square, followed by another man who was not with them.

"Another man was walking past them in the opposite direction. The victim was in the road at the time of the incident. There was also a dog running around without a lead.

"We believe that any or all of the people described could have information relating to the assault which is vital to our investigation."

Police also want to speak to another man who was on his phone at the time.

At about 11.30pm in High Street, shortly before the attack took place, the victim, followed by a group of men on foot, cycled past a man who was wearing light-coloured trousers and a hooded top with a light-coloured logo on the chest.

Iman St Clair, 18, of Kestrel Crescent, Oxford, has been charged with murder. He appeared at Oxford Crown Court on November 21 when he denied murder and was given bail until his trial on June 12.

Two men, aged 23 and 18, and three 17-year-old boys, all from Oxford, were also arrested on suspicion of murder and released on bail until January 16, 2017.

Witnesses should contact 101.

News Bites

Bike theft charges

OXFORD: A man has been charged with three counts of stealing bicycles from Oxford colleges last month.

Jamie Clark, 27, of Luther Street, Oxford, is alleged to have taken the bicycles from St Catherine's College on November 17, Corpus Christi College on November 22 and St Aldate's College on November 29.

He is due to appear at Oxford Magistrates Court on December 16.

Drivers warned

BERKS: Drivers are being warned about thieves using jamming devices to prevent cars from being locked properly and then stealing from them.

A spate of incidents has seen 14 vehicles at service stations an the M4 in Berkshire being targeted and police are advising that motorists manually lock their cars.

Items such as laptops, luggage and wallets have been stolen in the incidents over the last two weeks.

Rape PC loses job

OXON: A police officer given a seven-year jail term for rape lost his job after a misconduct hearing.

PC Richard Hale, based at Bicester, was dismissed on Tuesday last week following the hearing chaired by the Chief Constable Francis Habgood.

Hale was dismissed without notice after he breached the Standards of Professional Behaviour. He was convicted on one count of rape at Oxford Crown Court on October 12.

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Fare rises a 'kick in the teeth' for rail travellers

By George Welch

Passengers are facing an average 2.3% increase in fares

CAMPAIGNERS have said passengers are being "priced off" the railways after the rail industry announced train fares in Britain will go up by an average of 2.3 per cent from January 2.

The price hike covers all tickets – both regulated fares, which includes season tickets, and unregulated fares, such as off-peak leisure tickets.

The rise in regulated fares had already been capped at July's Retail Prices Index inflation rate of 1.9 per cent. Unregulated fares face no cap.

Campaign group Campaign for Better Transport responded to the announcement on Friday criticising the move, saying some customers are being "priced off the railways".

Lianna Etkind for Campaign for Better Transport, said: "With next year's regulated rail fares rising by nearly 2 per cent, with some unregulated, walk-on fares rising even further, people are now finding themselves priced off the railways.

"The train operating companies and the Government need to work closely together to provide fairer, simpler and cheaper fares making sure people are always sold the cheapest ticket available."

Between 1995 and 2016 passengers have seen average fares increase by 23.5 per cent and much more needs to be done by train operators and the Government to provide an affordable railway, the group said.

For Oxford commuters, ticket costs could include:

- Off-peak return, Oxford to London Paddington: From £25 to £25.57
- Twelve month season ticket, Oxford to London Paddington: From £4,832 to £4,920
- Off-peak return, Oxford to Birmingham New Street: From £36.60 to £37.33
- Twelve month season ticket, Oxford to Birmingham New Street: From £5,008 to £5,100

Mick Cash, general secretary of RMT, Britain's largest specialist transport union, described the hike as a "rip-off".

He said: "This latest fares hike is another kick in the teeth for British passengers and condemns them to continue to pay some of the highest fares in Europe to travel on rammed out and unreliable trains.

"Once again the rip-off private train companies are laughing all the way to the bank as they whack up fares and axe staff in all-out dash to maximise their profits."

Paul Plummer, chief executive of the Rail Delivery Group, which represents train operators and Network Rail, said: "We understand how passengers feel when fares go up, and we know that in some places they haven't always got the service they pay for.

"Fares are influenced by government policy or as a result of the payments train companies make to government."

Nine years for repeated rape

• Mudassar Hussain

AN Oxford man has been jailed for repeatedly raping a woman last year.

Mudassar Hussain, 32 formerly of Hurst Street, will spend nine years behind bars after he was found guilty on Monday last week of four counts of rape at Oxford Crown Court following a nine day trial.

He was sentenced at the same hearing to nine years for each offence to run concurrently.

The offences all took place between July 1 and November 18 last year in Oxford.

Investigating officer Det Con Julia Jacobs, of Oxford Police Station, said: "I am extremely pleased that the courage of the victim has been rewarded, justice has been served and I have great admiration for her and her close family."

A victim statement was read out in court where the victim, who cannot be named for legal reasons was described by her sister as 'delicate'.

The statement also said that the health of the victim, her sister and her parents had all been badly affected by the case.

The victim's sister added: "I hope this case will encourage other victims to come forward because seeking justice should not be seen as disrespectful or negative in any way."

Jihadi Jack parents deny terror fund

THE parents of so-called 'Jihadi Jack' have pleaded not guilty to charges of funding terrorism.

John Letts and Sally Lane are accused of sending cash to 20-year-old Jack Letts, who was suspected of joining so-called Islamic State in 2014.

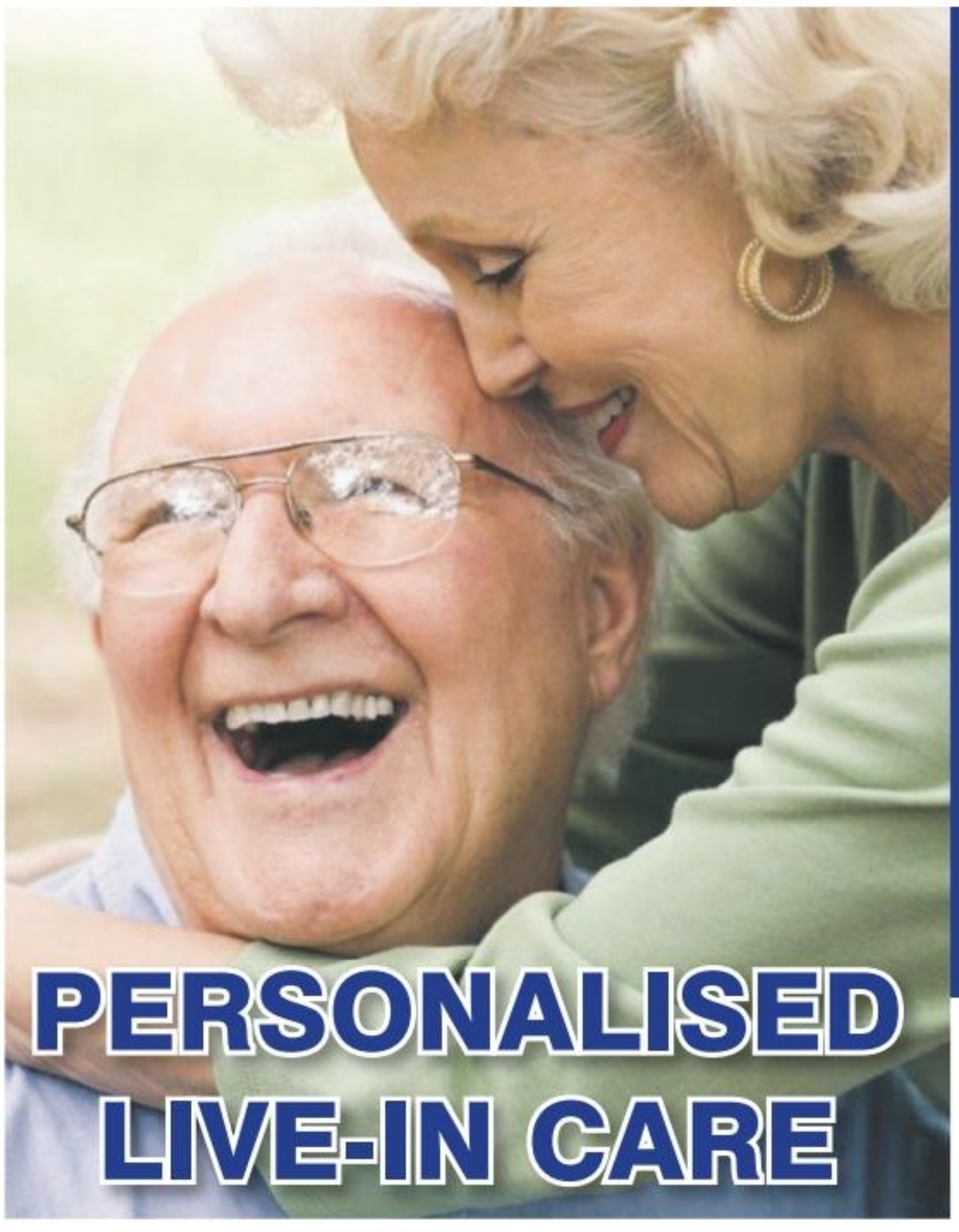
The Oxford couple, of Chilswell Road, allegedly sent their son £1,723 between September 2015 and January – they denied three counts of funding terrorism at the Old Bailey.

Ms Lane is also charged with two counts of attempting to send payments of £500 on January 4, but was not asked to enter pleas.

Mr Letts, 55, and his 54-year-old wife, were released on bail and will go on trial at the same court on January 9.

The former pupil of Cherwell School told his parents he was travelling to Kuwait to study Arabic in September 2014, before secretly travelling to Syria.

He is thought to be married and living in Iraq under a different name.



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News Bites

Man charged for multiple offences across county

OXON: A 26-year-old man has been charged with nine offences which happened in Harwell, Didcot and Wantage.

Michael Hogan, of no fixed abode, was charged on November 23 with:

- Burglary dwelling and theft on November 20 in Harwell
- Theft of motor vehicle on November 20 in Harwell
- Criminal damage on November 21 in Didcot
- Burglary other than in a dwelling on November 21 in Didcot
- Theft of motor vehicle on November 21 in Didcot
- Burglary dwelling and theft on November 21 in Harwell
- Driving a motor vehicle dangerously on November 22 in Wantage
- Driving whilst disqualified on November 22 in Wantage
- Using a motor vehicle on a road / public place without third party insurance on November 22 in Wantage

Hogan appeared at Oxford Magistrates' Court on November 24 and has been remanded in custody until he is set to appear at Oxford Crown Court on December 23.

Contact police on 101 if you have any information.

Uncertain future for JET after vote

By Alex Iszatt

THE future of the Joint European Torus (JET) project at Culham is uncertain after Britain's vote to leave the EU put funding in doubt.

The world-leading laboratory has pioneered research into fusion for almost 40 years, but since the Brexit vote, the issues of freedom of movement and financing have cast a doubt over the future of the Culham Centre for Fusion Energy.

The JET project involves 350 scientists exploring the potential of fusion power. Since the referendum, five researchers have left the project to return to mainland Europe. Others are believed to be considering their positions.

JET is backed by funding from almost 40 countries in the EUROfusion consortium but membership of EUROfusion is only for those in the EU.

The British Government is yet to make clear its nuclear co-operation plans.

The day after Britain's vote to leave the EU, Tony Donné, the programme manager for EUROfusion, said: "Our British member [Culham] is a strong contributor to the European fusion programme. We will be working hard to continue the collaboration after 2018. If and how this is possible is impossible to say today."

To demolish the facility would cost an estimated £289m and, according to a JET paper from 2003, leave 3,000 cubic metres of radioactive waste at the south Oxfordshire plant.

Culham's JET experiments have used tritium, a radioactive hydrogen isotope, leaving a legacy of contamination that will take almost a century to clear.

The plasma facing walls of Culham's Tokamak are also made of Beryllium, a metal that can be toxic.

Euratom, the European atomic energy community, can enter into agreements or contracts to co-operate with third-party countries.

Eight such agreements are in place — with the US, Japan, Canada, Australia, Kazakhstan, Ukraine, Uzbekistan and South Africa — but they vary in scope.

Any third-party agreement between the UK and Euratom would not be the same as opting in for membership of the organisation.

Fundraising gathers £800 for family hit by fire

A CROWDFUNDING page has raised more than £800 for a Kidlington family whose house was destroyed in a suspected arson attack.

A five-year-old boy and a man and woman, aged 50 and 36, escaped their blazing Bassett Way home via windows at about 1.50am on November 25.

In under a week, Steve Hurd, who set up the page on behalf of his sister and brother-in-law who live in the same road, has helped raise £826 for the family, who required medical treatment but are believed to be alright after the incident.

To donate go to www.gofundme.com/kidlington-house-fire

MP blasts Immigration Service over visa refusal

DIDCOT and Wantage MP Ed Vaizey has blasted the Immigration Service for its 'unacceptable incompetence' after a Wallingford man's Chinese wife was refused a visa.

Steve Bearns, 56, lives in Wallingford with his three-year-old son, Ryan, but difficulties with his 35-year-old wife Xia Zu's visa means they are set for a Christmas apart.

The couple met in China in 2006 and married there in 2010 before moving to Oxfordshire in 2013.

• Didcot and Wantage MP, Ed Vaizey

But the UK Visa and Immigrations office refused application by Xia, who uses the English name Mary, and she returned to China in the summer of 2015.

Consequently, the couple have been sharing the care of Ryan, who was born in the UK. He now spends half the year in China and half the year in Wallingford.

Mr Bearns and his wife, who won their appeal to the Immigation Service for her to be allowed to return to her husband and son in Britain only to see the service's officials then refuse it, have now been turned down for a fast-track second appeal.

To make matters worse, the Immigration Service sent the news to the wrong MP. Instead of sending it to Mr Bearns' MP Mr Vaizey, they sent it to a Labour MP in London.

Mr Vaizey said: "The Immigration Service have handled my constituents' case disgracefully.

"They threw innumerable bureaucratic obstacles in their way; they turned down Mrs Bearns' right to live in the UK; when she won her appeal they ignored it; now they have turned down a fast-track second appeal.

"To add insult to injury, this news was not passed to me but to a London Labour MP who kindly passed it on.

"This is unacceptable incompetence from a service that should now be hanging its head in shame."

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Festive fare at city market

• The stalls were a hit with shoppers at the market last year

CHRISTMAS markets have become as much part of the festive season as turkey and tinsel and today marks the start of Oxford's offering.

The city's Christmas market runs until December 18 and is set among some of the city's most historical sights on Broad Street.

The market will feature around 60 stalls selling a wide range of gifts and decorations as well as plenty of tasty fare to enjoy while you shop including German Bratwurst, churros with hot chocolate sauce and traditional Gluhwein.

Among the exhibitors will be those offering jewellery, candles, artworks, prints and ceramics and traditional decorations.

Foodies looking for the perfect gift will be spoilt for choice with cheese, chocolates, coffee, chilli sauces and even treats from the liquid deli.

Local choirs and bands will keep shoppers entertained during the 11 days and children can enjoy a ride on a Victorian carousel.

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There are more than 65 million people displaced worldwide. Will you help light their way to safety this Christmas?

You only have to turn on the news to see the damage being inflicted by violence around the world today. 4.8 million Syrians have been forced from their country. On the Thai/Myanmar border, 100,000 people are living in camps. And in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), 1.7 million people have been forced from their homes.

It's a humanitarian crisis on an unprecedented scale.

Families are fleeing violence and conflict

The huge numbers can be overwhelming, but behind the statistics are families who have been left with nothing. There are parents who fear for their children's lives. There are terrified children who are losing hope of a happier future. And there are women like Georgette.

You could be a beacon of hope for a family like Georgette's this Christmas.

Before Georgette had a chance to escape the violence that besieged her home in the DRC, she was taken – along with her youngest son – and held captive by a gang of men.

Mercifully, Georgette escaped and fled to Shabunda centre – where Christian Aid is providing vital support to vulnerable people just like her. Georgette was reunited with her family – but their joy was short-lived. With no possessions and no means of earning a living, they urgently needed help.

In these dark times, you can help us light the way

Helping families displaced by violence was the reason Christian Aid was founded, and helping people – whatever their beliefs – who are struggling remains at the heart of everything we do. This Christmas, with the help of our wonderful supporters and partner organisations, we'll be working to bring light where there is darkness – delivering life-changing assistance to those who need it most. By providing families like Georgette's with clothes and hygiene kits, we can give comfort in the short term – and with seeds, tools and income support, we can help them to rebuild their lives and light the way to a brighter future.

65 million
people displaced around the world

You can be a beacon of hope this Christmas

As we celebrate the birth of Jesus this Christmas time, we're calling out to people across the UK to remember the millions of children, mothers and fathers currently fleeing from conflict, who are less fortunate than ourselves.

Christian Aid can only continue to reach those most in need with the support of people like you.

So please, send a Christmas gift today – you can be the one to light the way towards a brighter future.

Christian Aid: Helping displaced families since 1945...

1945
Christian Aid is formed in the aftermath of WWII to help European refugees who have lost everything.

1955
We expand our work, providing food and clothing to refugees in East Asia.

1973
Christian Aid raises £1.35m to help people caught up in the famine in Ethiopia.

2004
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2016
Christian Aid continues to provide life-saving support to vulnerable people all over the world.

Yes, I want to help light the way for a family this Christmas.

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Recipes to help cut food waste attract retailer's attention

By Samantha McGregor

AN Oxfordshire business that creates chutneys, relishes and sauces from fruit and vegetables that would otherwise go to waste, has partnered with a major retailer.

Wonky Fruit was set up by brother and sister, Ashley and John Cavers, in bid to try and reduce food waste.

They enlisted the help of local caterer Laura Snook to create Wonky recipes, including Chilli tomato relish, tangy onion chutney and spiced apple jelly.

Now their products will be sold in all of Oxfordshire's Midcounties Co-operative stores following a successful six-month trial.

And that's not the only thing the siblings have been celebrating.

The pair won Bicester's first Oxfordshire SOUP, a live crowdfunding-meets-Dragon's Den event sponsored by Bicester Innovation Centre.

They plan to use the £1,600 prize money to help rebrand to the Wonky Food Company, which will launch early next year. The pair will also get support with marketing and mentoring.

Mr Cavers said: "We have been working closely with The Midcounties Co-operative's local food team who have advised that our rebrand will help make us stand out in addition to reflecting that we create recipes from vegetables as well as fruit."

• Wonky Fruit win Oxfordshire SOUP at Bicester School. From left: Alison Rosier (The Bicester School), John Cavers (Wonky Fruit), Laura Snook (Wonky Fruit), Ashley Cavers (Wonky Fruit), Tina Marshall (Creating Sense), Tom Hanney (Oxford Innovation)

He said the support from Oxfordshire SOUP will help the siblings take their business to the next level.

Tom Hanney, Oxfordshire SOUP judge and Centre Manager, at Bicester and Cherwell Innovation Centres, said: "The audience and judges were extremely impressed by the concept and the Wonky Fruit team.

"The business clearly has lots of potential and will help provide a solution for food waste in Oxfordshire and across the UK."

Matt Fletcher, who heads up the Direct Sourcing Team at The Midcounties Co-operative, said the partnership had started when the retailer donated its unsold fruit.

He said: "We saw an opportunity to build on this partnership and help the team create a new brand that we could eventually stock on our shelves.

"We're looking forward to introducing the first batch of the newly rebranded Wonky Food Company products to our Chipping Norton store in the New Year."

For more information go to wonkyfruit.co.uk

Hospital unit gets £2.7m makeover

A DAY medical unit at Banbury's Horton Hospital has been given a £2.7m overhaul.

Last month, Dame Fiona Caldicott, chairman of Oxford University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, cut the ribbon to officially re-open the newly refurbished Endoscopy Unit at the Oxford Road hospital.

The unit is used by about 5,000 patients each year from across North Oxfordshire.

It was shut while the refurbishment was carried out and patients had to travel to hospitals in Oxford for the procedure.

Work included creating separate areas for male and female patients and installing state-of-the-art decontamination equipment.

Dame Fiona said: "The new unit will greatly improve the experience for patients with much better privacy and more modern facilities."

Sue Kershaw, Sister in charge of Endoscopy at the Horton, said: "I think this is a really good facility for the Horton and for local people.

"We now have an up-to-date department – it is an immense improvement. Staff are happier, patients are happier – it's a very nice place to come and work."

About 20 staff are based in the Endoscopy Unit.

News Bites

Discount bins

N OXON: Take advantage of a £12 discount on blue bins to recycle paper, cardboard, plastic and cans.

The bins cost £18 from now until December 31.

Cllr Debbie Pickford, Cherwell's lead member for clean and green, said: "We know people generate a lot more recycling in the Christmas period, and this is the ideal time to invest in a second bin."

Call 01295 227003 or go to cherwell.gov.uk/recycling

Budding authors

OXON: Budding writers from across the county are being urged to put pen to paper and enter a short story writers contest.

Run by Oxfordshire County Council's Library Service, there are separate categories for adults and young adults, aged 11 to 17.

The winning entries will be published as eBooks for library members to borrow.

The deadline for entries is January 4, 2017. For more information go to oxfordshire.gov.uk

Hospital survey

OXON: Young people are being asked to give their view on the care they received by Oxford University Hospital Trust while in any of the county's hospitals.

Part of a national NHS patient survey programme the aim is to highlight areas that are good and those that need improving.

They will be asked about all aspects of care, the information they received and the hospital environment. Parents' views will also be sought.

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Still too many homeless despite fall in numbers

By George Welch

DESPITE the drop in the number of homeless people on the streets of Oxford, councillors say they are still concerned about those forced to sleep rough.

Latest figures released by Oxford City Council have revealed there are 33 people out on the streets and at least 47 people sleeping rough on any given night.

A city council spokesperson said rough sleeping "continues to be a serious challenge".

The street count in Oxford at the beginning of November found 33 people rough sleeping, down from 39 in 2015 when there had been a 50 per cent rise on 2014.

However, the council and homeless organisations estimate at least 47 people could be sleeping rough on any given night. This figure is down from 56 in 2015.

Councillor Mike Rowley, Oxford city board member for housing, said: "We remain concerned with street homelessness in the city, even though the number of rough sleepers counted on the particular night has declined compared to last year.

"We applaud the good work and support offered by the many organisations within the sector to some of the most vulnerable people in our city.

"However, rough sleeping is a big issue in Oxford and we want to continue to support the organisations that make a difference."

But Cllr Rowley said the city council is "increasingly concerned" about county-wide cuts, which have seen support service budgets cut by £1.5m (60 per cent) by Oxfordshire County Council.

As a result, homeless shelters Simon House and Julian Housing will be 'decommissioned' by April 2018, meaning about 200 beds will be lost.

All six councils across the county and the Oxfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group have chipped in to commit nearly £3m over a three-year period to support single homeless people across Oxfordshire.

SODC and the Vale are to invest more than £215,000 to support those at risk. The funding will provide 26 supported beds for the district's most vulnerable residents for the next three years. But Cllr Rowley said he does not think that is enough.

He added: "The bottom line is that there will be less money available from April 1 due to the cuts and this means fewer beds for homeless people in the city and across the county."

Oxford City Councillor Craig Simmons has called on the council to provide shelter through council reserve funding pots and that about £800,000 could be made available.

The city council said it has invested £5 million, with another £5 million in match funding from homeless property fund Resonance Ltd, for a Real Lettings scheme that will offer homes with low rents for people in housing need. Five of these homes will be specifically designated to people who are moving from homeless hostels or supported accommodation in the city.

Thousands face Christmas on the streets

CHARITY Shelter, which is celebrating its 50th anniversary, revealed figures showing more than 250,000 people are homeless in England.

The stats from 2015 claim one in 419 people in Oxford are homeless. Of the 68 local authorities in the South East region, South Oxfordshire District Council, Vale of White Horse District Council and West Oxfordshire District Council were among the boroughs with the fewest rough sleepers in 2015.

The Vale performed best with five rough sleepers and 12 in temporary accommodation, meaning one in 7,435 people in 2015 were homeless.

Charity chief executive Campbell Robb said: "Shelter's founding shone a light on hidden homelessness in the 1960s slums. But while those troubled times have faded into memory, 50 years on a modern-day housing crisis is tightening its grip on our country. Hundreds of thousands of people will face the trauma of waking up homeless this Christmas.

"Decades in the making, this is the tragic result of a nation struggling under the weight of sky-high rents, a lack of affordable homes and cuts to welfare support."

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News Bites

Online flood tips

OXON: Help is at hand for anyone in Oxfordshire wanting to take action to safeguard their homes and businesses against the effects of flooding.

A new online 'toolkit' has been launched by Oxfordshire County Council which claims to provide a "one-stop-shop" for flood information and advice.

The toolkit, the first of its kind in Oxfordshire, is at www.oxfordshirefloodtoolkit.com

Book signings

OXFORD: Waterstones is hosting a Christmas fundraiser to raise money and awareness for Oxford-based charity Oxfam.

A number of high profile authors, such as Clare Balding and Mark Haddon, will sign books from 5.30pm to 9pm today at the Broad Street store.

Frideswide Voices choir and a jazz band will perform and guests can enjoy mince pies and mulled wine at the free event.

A botanic first

OXON: Oxford University's botanic garden held its first Christmas Fair last weekend.

The gates were opened to visitors to stroll around parts of Britain's oldest botanic garden for the first time at Christmas time, encouraging those who never visited before to do so.

Mum raises £290 for childhood cancer charity on a 10-mile run

By George Welch

A MUM of two has raised £290 for the Oxfordshire Guardian's charity of the year by running 10 miles for a fundraising challenge.

Jessica Memery, 35, from Portsmouth took part in The Great South Run last month to raise money and awareness of Blue Skye Thinking, a charity close to her heart.

The charity was set up in memory of five-year-old Skye Hall, from Oxford, who died in 2014 from side effects of his treatment for Medulloblastoma, an aggressive and cancerous brain tumour.

She said: "I had a great day and it was wonderful to do something so special for Skye.

"My favourite part of the race was feeling part of something that matters, so many people running for something or someone, it felt like a privilege to be involved.

"The atmosphere on the day was fantastic too. My least favourite part however was between mile eight and mile nine when the sun was beating down, no breeze to speak of and the end seemed so close, yet so far.

"I would happily fundraise for Blue Skye Thinking again or support the charity in an alternative way as the work they do is so vital to changing the landscape of how we treat children with cancer.

"I have over 10 years of experience in the charitable sector so I would love to do more if I can."

Money raised by Jessica will go towards the charity's 'Aim Skye High Appeal', which aims to raise £50,000 towards a three year Post Doctoral research position at the renowned Northern Institute for Cancer Research.

To support the appeal, visit http://tinyurl.com/hgpvzyr, or text UPUP52 £3 to 70070

To plan your own 'Skye High' fundraising event, email: aimskyehigh@blueskythinking.org and the charity will send a fundraising pack.

• *Jess and friend before, above, and after the race*

Pupils honoured in police force's online safety competition

A 17-YEAR-OLD has been chosen as the winner of a Thames Valley Police competition giving advice to young people on how to stay safe online.

Abbie Head, an A-level student from Aylesbury, caught the eye of judges with her colourful Manga-style design to become the winner of the #ProtectYourWord Online Safety Competition.

A group of four Year 8 students – Rose, Lottie, Josie and Marina – from St Helen and St Katharine School, Abingdon, are the runners-up, with a video produced and starring themselves warning people to be careful about information they share online.

Thames Valley Police's Chief Constable Francis Habgood met the winner and runners-up to present them with their prizes, an iPad Mini 2 and Chromebook. The prizes were donated by RM Education, based at Milton Park, near Didcot, which specialises in software and ICT solutions for schools.

The contest was organised as part of Thames Valley Police's #ProtectYourWorld – stay safe online campaign, which ran in September to raise awareness about cyber crime and the steps people and businesses can take to protect themselves from becoming victims.

St Helen and St Katharine School art teacher Hannah McCague submitted the runners-up video entry on behalf of her pupils. She said: "They came up with the idea themselves and ran with it. They took a lot of time shooting the video in different locations and using various props. We're very proud of them all."

Chief Con Habgood said: "The judges included officers and staff who specialise in dealing with online crime and they were very impressed with the high standard of all the entries to the competition. Thank you to all the young people who took the time to take part, Thames Valley Police is very grateful and we have enjoyed seeing your ideas."

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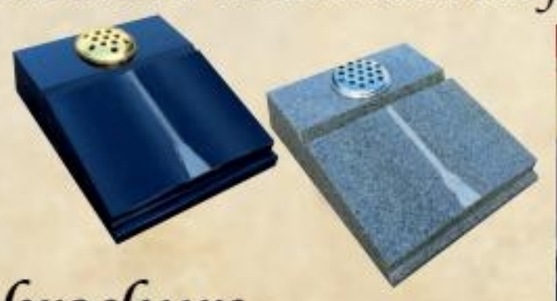

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Multi-storey site reopens to offer festive parking

By Samantha McGregor

THE site of a multi-storey car park demolished after "significant structural issues" were found has re-opened to provide Christmas shoppers with more than 140 temporary parking spaces.

The Bolton Road car park closed in June with the loss of 620 town centre car-parking spaces after the problems were identified.

But, last week, the site re-opened with 142 parking spaces.

Cherwell District Council said at the time it had "no option" but to close the carpark with "immediate effect" because of "health and safety implications" from the structural inspection.

The council appointed Armac Group to carry out the work and the demolition started in August.

Cllr George Reynolds, Cherwell's deputy leader, said: "This work had not been planned; it came about following an inspector's report which identified serious issues and due to plans to regenerate the site in the future, it was agreed not to invest money repairing a structure which would later be demolished.

"Throughout this project, we have had two key priorities; to minimise disruption and reopen in time to support traders during the festive period.

"Armac Group, who carried out this work, has done a fantastic job in demolishing, clearing and resurfacing this site within a very tight timeframe."

He added: "As well as being able to provide parking over the Christmas period, we were also able to use this car park in the Small Business Saturday free parking promotion, with shoppers in easy walking distance of many of the independent traders in Banbury's fantastic old town."

The car park comprises 135 spaces plus an additional seven designated Blue Badge bays.

Drivers can use the car park for short- or long-stay visits with charging periods between 8am and 7pm. The car park has been equipped with ticket machines, lighting and repainted with new white-lined parking bays.

Bolton Road is identified within Cherwell's Local Plan as a key site for development to potentially incorporate opportunities for a hotel, housing, retail and restaurant units. These plans would have involved the future demolition of the multi-storey once the project moved forward.

Rubble from the former multi-storey building has been recycled and used to form part of the infrastructure at the nearby Longford Park housing development in Bodicote.

Towns lit up for Christmas

CHRISTMAS lights have been switched on in Oxfordshire towns.

Life-long charity fundraiser 88-year-old Kathleen Davis took pride of place at the Banbury switch-on.

Supported by former staff of the town's Horton Hospital and watched by a crowd of more than 2,000, she pressed the button to light up the town's streets.

Mrs Davis has raised thousands of pounds for charities including Katherine House Hospice at Adderbury, Bodicote Scouts, Multiple Sclerosis Society and Bodicote WI.

Mrs Davis said: "I can't believe I've been asked to switch on the Christmas Lights. It's a real honour. Thank you, Banbury."

In Bicester, mayor Jolanta Lis turned on the festive lights with the help of three children, who won a place on the stage after taking part in Bicester Town Council's snowflake competition.

In Thame, the big switch-on took place on Friday. The town came alive with stilt walkers, entertainer Colonel Custard, Morris dancers and festive stalls.

Just before the lights were switched-on school children took part in a lantern parade, then Thame mayor Linda Emery, town Santa trail winner Holly Stafford, eight, Father Christmas and panto-star Aladdin pushed the plunger to light up the town.

• *Fundraiser Kathleen Davis presses the button on Banbury's festive lights*

News Bites

Activity day staged

THAME: Town mayor Linda Emery is sponsoring a children's activity day to raise money for her chosen charities, The Red Kite Children's Centre and Thame Youth Café.

It will take place on December 17, at Lord Williams' Lower School Theatre, from 10am to 4pm.

The Dream Team Creative Workshop is open to children aged 10 to 18, and will include singing, performance skills and audition techniques. The session costs £45. Email jv@jenniferveal.com

Christmas fair

N OXON: Two international charities are set to benefit from a Christmas fair.

The Nicholsons Fair, takes place at Nicholson Nurseries, North Aston, today from 6pm to 9pm.

A host of stalls will be selling gifts, crafts, hot food, as well as Christmas trees and decorations.

Money raised will go to the Rafiki Thabo Foundation & Midwife in Nepal charities.

For more information, view nicholsonsgb.com

Grants deadline

N OXON: Community group organisers in Bicester are being reminded that the deadline for the first round of applications to the Spark fund is Monday, December 12.

Cherwell District Council has committed £40,000 in grant monies to the fund to support local organisations promoting culture and healthy lifestyles.

For more information, view community.services@cherwellandsouthnorthants.gov.uk

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Grammy Award winner Sheena Easton joins an all singing, high-kicking cast as Dorothy Brock with Tom Lister as Julian Marsh and Clare Halse as Peggy Sawyer.

Mark Bramble, co-author of the book for the original Broadway and West End productions of 42nd STREET and director of the 2001 Tony Award® winning revival of 42nd STREET, returns to direct the new West End production at Theatre Royal Drury Lane, Catherine St, London WC2B 5JF from 20 March 2017

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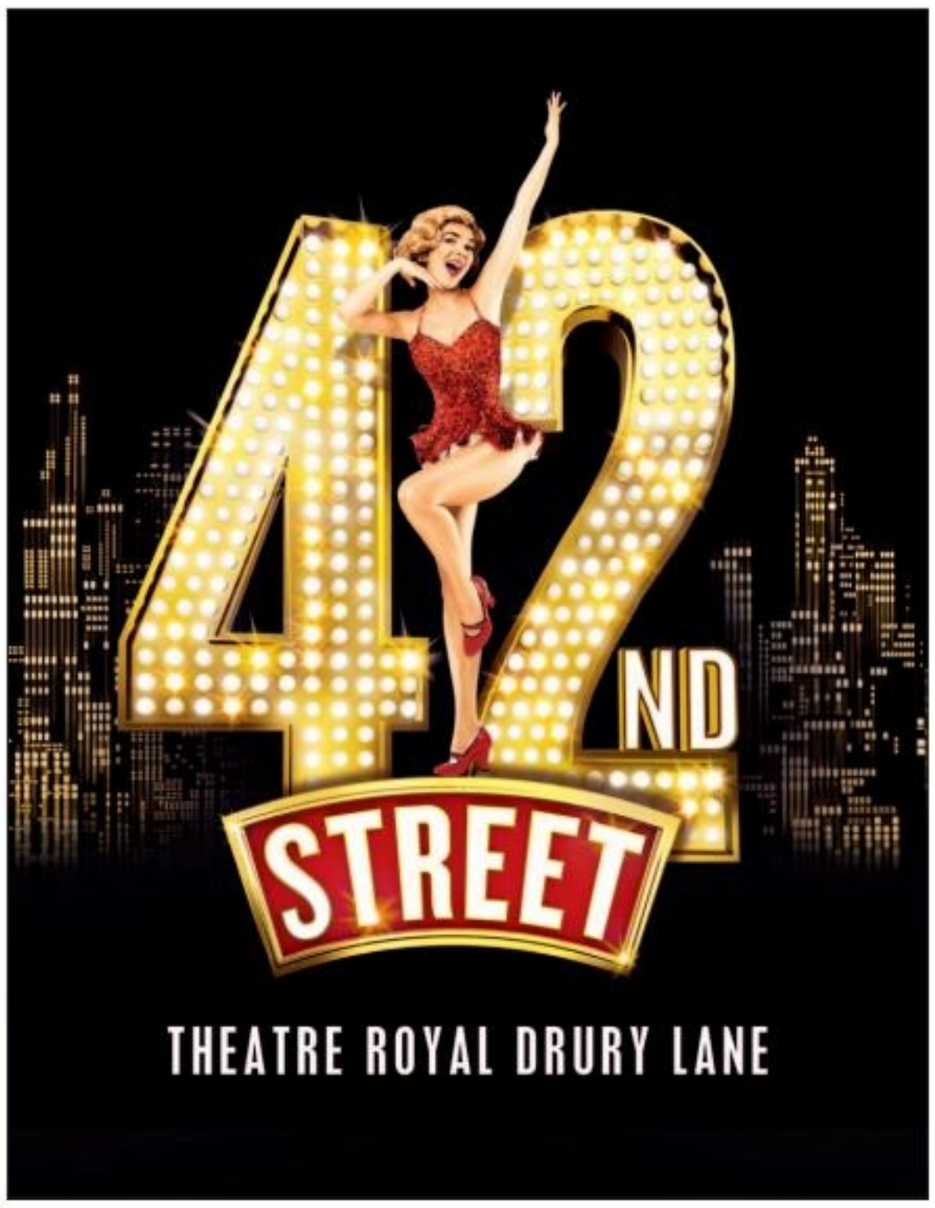

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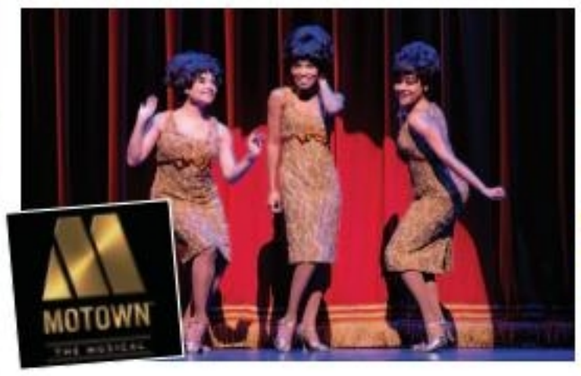

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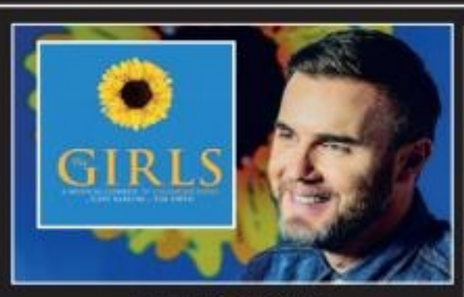

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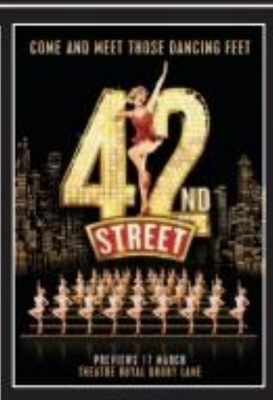

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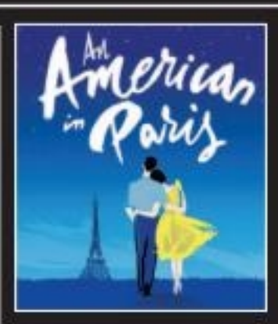

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Two speed crossword

Quick Clues Across

4 Grass-cutting implement (6)
8 Seaman (7)
9 Decorous (6)
10 Baking dish (9)
11 Blessing (4)
13 Expiate (5)
14 Solicit (7)
16 Method of calculating by symbols (7)
18 Dazzling light (5)
19 Couple (4)
21 Type of beetle (9)
22 Suffocated (6)
23 Dissimilar (7)
24 Calls forth (6)

Quick Clues Down

1 Spider (9)
2 One with a different opinion (9)
3 Gay (5)
5 Restore to health (4)
6 Walk stealthily (6)
7 Wandering (6)
9 Uses vigorously (5)
11 Earth-moving vehicle (9)
12 Exclusion from society (9)
15 Think deeply (5)
16 Fierce Indian (6)
17 Male escort (6)
20 Coil of yarn (5)
21 Give up (4)

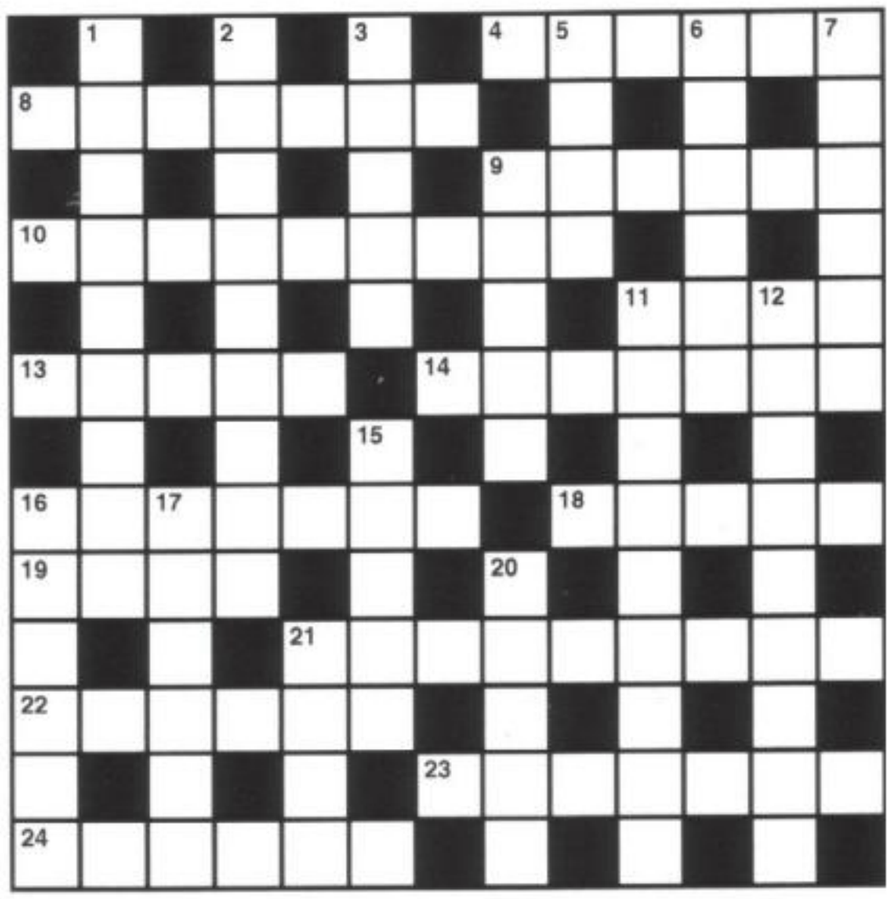
Scribble space

Cryptic Clues Across

4 Take exception to something (6)
8 Beg the wretch to get some knowledge (7)
9 Alarm at being right in the battle (6)
10 Acted as if they had given a preliminary treatment (9)
11 Does one usually start to age about a fever? (4)
13 Caught sight of about five? Or more? (5)
14 Cultivates the soil, disregarding the dangers (7)
16 Conscience can produce knowledge without study (7)
18 A banquet is produced quickly round the east (5)
19 We hear they listened to the crowd (4)
21 Does every shopkeeper deal in the slave market (9)
22 Fame about a spoken part of speech? (6)
23 Sticks together about fifty drawings (7)
24 Get rid of the humbug, and pour off the wine (6)

Cryptic Clues Down

1 Mere upset before sound gentlemen coming out (9)
2 Gave food round the second and praised the whole (9)
3 Case which gives you a chance to branch out? (5)
5 The board will lose nothing in locking for a poet (4)
6 Take your future wife into your employment? (6)
7 Names held by champions (6)
9 Wild fear about the left (5)
11 The period to sit in very wretched conditions (9)
12 The world parliament generally is behaving in a strange way (9)
15 A thick-skinned nut (5)
16 One way in which the redhas divided (6)
17 Smooth ninety-nine can give a contrary meaning (6)
20 I am in business for perfection (5)
21 Castor for one (4)



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Sudoku

The objective is to fill a 9×9 grid with digits so that each column, each row, and each of the nine 3×3 sub-grids that compose the grid (also called "boxes", "blocks", "regions", or "sub-squares") contains all of the digits from 1 to 9. The puzzle setter provides a partially completed grid, which for a well-posed puzzle has a unique solution.

EASY/MEDIUM/HARD

9				6	3			
2		8			1	3		
	6					7	4	1
	3			1	9		2	7
6			8		7			4
8	9		2	5			1	
4	5	9					6	
		3	4			5		8
			1	2				9

1				8				3
	7						6	
		6	9		5	1		
4	6		5		8		3	7
			3		7			
3	9		1		4		8	5
		2	4		9	3		
	4						9	
5				7				2

					3	6		1
				1		2		
						4	9	
	6				9		1	2
9			6		8			5
2	7		4				3	
	5	9						
		4		7				
6		7	8					

This week's solutions

1	5	4	7	8	6	9	2	3
9	7	2	3	1	5	6	4	8
3	6	8	2	4	9	7	5	1
4	8	3	5	6	7	2	1	9
2	9	1	4	3	8	5	6	7
7	4	5	9	2	1	8	3	6
6	3	9	8	7	4	1	2	5
5	2	7	1	9	3	4	8	6
8	1	6	6	5	2	3	9	4

5	2	4	8	3	7	9	1	6
6	8	7	2	9	1	3	5	4
3	9	1	6	5	4	2	8	7
7	3	8	1	9	5	6	4	2
2	6	4	7	8	3	5	9	1
4	5	9	3	2	6	8	7	3
8	7	3	5	4	9	1	2	6
1	4	6	9	7	2	3	6	5
9	1	2	4	6	8	7	3	5

9	4	1	7	6	3	2	8	5
2	7	8	5	4	1	3	9	6
3	6	5	9	8	2	7	4	1
5	3	4	6	1	9	8	2	7
6	1	2	8	3	7	9	5	4
8	9	7	2	5	4	6	1	3
4	5	9	3	2	1	6	7	8
1	2	3	4	9	6	5	8	7
7	8	6	1	7	5	4	3	2

Quick Crossword

Across: 4 Scythe 8 Mariner 9 Proper 10 Casserole 11 Boon 13 Atone 14 Request 16 Algebra 18 Glare 19 Pair 21 Cockroach 22 Choked 23 Diverse 24 Evokes

Down: 1 Tarantula 2 Dissenter 3 Merry 5 Cure 6 Tiptoe 7 Errant 9 Flies 11 Bulldozer 12 Ostracism 15 Brood 16 Apache 17 Gigolo 20 Skein 21 Cede

Cryptic Crossword

Across: 4 Object 8 Implore 9 Fright 10 Pretended 11 Ague 13 Seven 14 Gardens 17 Science 18 Feast 19 Herd 21 Tradesman 22 Renown 23 Pastels 24 Decant

Down: 1 Emergence 2 Flattered 3 Trunk 5 Bard 6 Engage 7 Titles 9 Feral 11 Adversity 12 Unusually 15 Acorn 16 Shared 17 Ironic 20 Ideal 21 Twin

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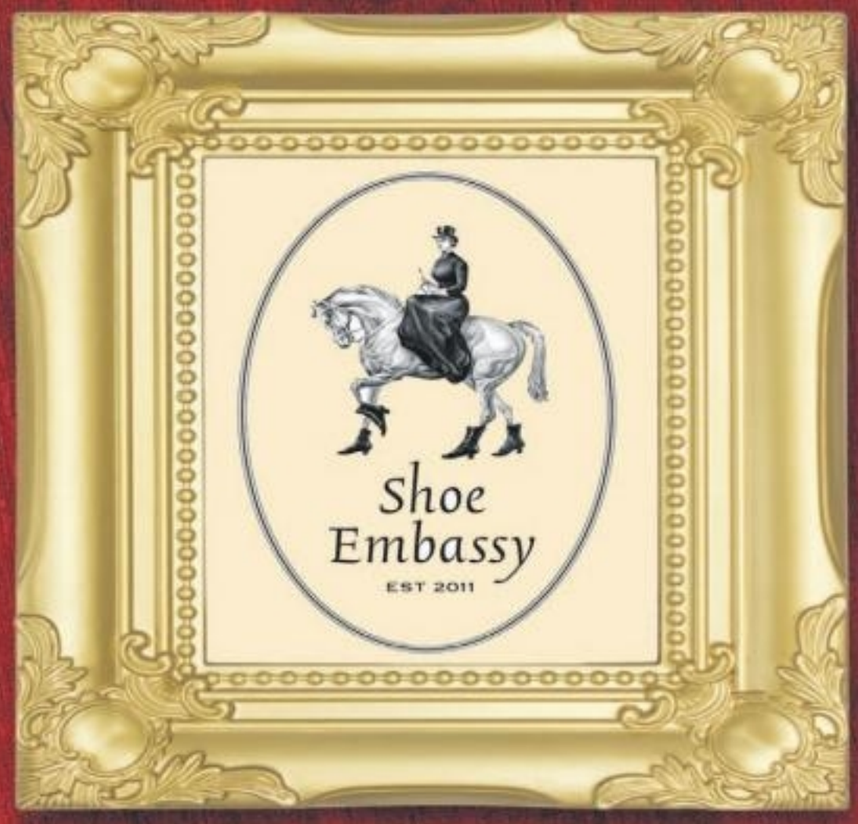

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Snow-Blakes in Henley

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See inside for more.

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Saturday December 10th

BBC1

Casualty, 9.10pm

DAYTIME

11.30 James Martin – Home Comforts at Christmas (S)(R) **12.00 Football Focus** (S) **1.00 News** (S) **1.15 Bargain Hunt** (R) **1.15 Granada/YTV The Super League Show 2.00 Christmas Supermarket Secrets** (R) **3.00 Escape to the Continent** (S)(R) **4.00 Final Score 5.10 Celebrity Mastermind** (S)(R) **5.40 News** (S) **5.50 BBC Regional News** (S) **6.00 Pointless Celebrities** (S)(R) **6.50 Strictly Come Dancing** (S)

7

8

8.10 Michael McIntyre's Big Show Rick Astley, Al Porter and Olly Murs perform on stage at London's Theatre Royal. (S)

9

9.10 Casualty The miserly boss of a department store is injured during a riot at his shop. (S)

10

10.00 The National Lottery Live (S)
10.10 BBC News; Weather (S)
10.30 Match of the Day Gary Lineker presents highlights of the latest Premier League matches; (S) National Lottery Update (S)

11

11.50 The NFL Show Mark Chapman looks at the major stories shaping the NFL. (S)

AFTER 12

12.20 FILM Hard Rain (1998) (15) Action adventure, starring Christian Slater and Morgan Freeman. (S) **1.50** Weather for the Week Ahead (S) **1.55** BBC News (S)

BBC2

Flog It!, 3.30pm

6.25 FILM The Big Sky (1952) (U) (S) **8.25 FILM Build My Gallows High (1947) (PG)** (S) **10.00 Secret Britain** (S)(R) **11.00 Homes Under the Hammer** (S)(R) **12.00 Hairy Bikers' Best of British** (S)(R) **1.00 Best Bakes Ever** (S) **1.30 FILM Lust for Life (1956) (PG)** (S) **3.30 Flog It!** (S)(R) **4.10 Natural World** (S)(R) **5.00 FILM Nativity! (2009) (U)** (S) **6.40 Operation Snow Tiger** (S)(R)

7.40 Grand Tours of the Scottish Islands Paul Murton visits the Inner Hebrides islands of Gigha and Jura. (S)

8.10 Dad's Army (S)(R)
8.45 Walt Disney – Part One Part one of two. Documentary exploring the life and legacy of Walt Disney. (S)

9.45 Rauschenberg – American Art Pioneer Alastair Sooke visits the east coast of the US to profile Robert Rauschenberg. (S)

10.45 Andy Parsons: Slacktivist A stand-up performance by the Mock the Week panellist recorded over two nights at Harrogate Theatre in North Yorkshire. (S)(R)

11.45 FILM In the Dark Half (2012) (15) Premiere. Horror, starring Jessica Barden, Tony Curran and Lyndsey Marshal. (S)

1.05 FILM Jackpot (2011) (15) Crime comedy, starring Kyrre Hellum. **2.25** This Is BBC Two (S)

ITV

The Jonathan Ross Show, 10.05pm

9.05 Scrambled!: Adventure Time (S)(R) **9.25 ITV News** (S) **9.30 FILM Carry On Don't Lose Your Head (1966) (PG)** (S) **11.15 Judge Rinder** (S)(R) **12.15 ITV News** (S) **12.25 Cash Trapped** (S)(R) **1.30 FILM Death on the Nile (1978) (PG)** (S) **4.10 Thunderbirds Are Go** (S) **4.35 The Chase** (S)(R) **5.35 ITV Regional News** (S) **5.45 ITV News** (S) **6.00 Tipping Point: Lucky Stars** (S)(R)

7.00 Go for It Special A special edition of the talent-based game show. (S)

8.00 The X Factor Dermot O'Leary presents the first of two grand final shows. (S)

10.05 The Jonathan Ross Show Paul Hollywood, Miranda Hart, Keira Knightley, Kylie Minogue and David Walliams join Jonathan for festive fun. Last in the series. (S)

11.10 ITV News; Weather (S)
11.25 FILM Senna (2010) (12) Documentary exploring the life of Formula One world champion Ayrton Senna. (S)

1.20 Jackpot247 3.00 ITV Nightscreen

Channel 4

It Was Alright in the 1970s, 9pm

6.40 ITERA Expedition Race Ireland (S) **7.05 Everybody Loves Raymond** (S)(R) **7.55 Frasier** (S)(R) **9.00 The Morning Line** (S) **10.00 The Big Bang Theory** (S) **11.30 The Simpsons** (S)(R) **12.30 Deal or No Deal** (S) **1.30 Channel 4 Racing** (S) **4.00 Jamie's Super Food** (S)(R) **4.30 Location, Location, Location** (S)(R) **5.35 A Place in the Sun: Winter Sun** (S) **6.30 Channel 4 News** (S)

7.00 Jutland: WWI's Greatest Sea Battle Re-examining the events of the First World War naval battle. (S)(R)

8.00 Pearl Harbour: The New Evidence The truth about rumours of a conspiracy surrounding the devastating attack on Pearl Harbour in 1941.

9.00 It Was Alright in the 1970s Matt Lucas returns to poke more fun at Britain's viewing habits in the 1970s. (S)

10.00 FILM Paul (2011) (15) Sci-fi comedy, with Simon Pegg and Nick Frost. (S)

12.05 FILM Kingpin (1996) (12) Comedy, starring Woody Harrelson. (S) **2.10** Hollyoaks (S)(R) **4.15** Location, Location, Location (S)(R) **5.10** Kirstie's Handmade Treasures (S)(R) **5.25** Deal or No Deal (S)(R)

Channel 5

Football on 5: The Championship, 9pm

6.00 Milkshake! 9.45 The Fairly OddParents (S)(R) **10.20 FILM Hats Off to Christmas! (2013) (PG)** (S) **12.05 FILM Deck the Halls (2006) (PG)** (S) **1.55 FILM The Nine Lives of Christmas (2014) (PG)** (S) **3.30 FILM Mrs Miracle 2: Miracle in Manhattan (2010) (PG)** Family drama sequel, starring Doris Roberts. (S) **5.25 FILM Finding Father Christmas (2016)** (S)

7.10 NCIS: Silent Night, Deadly Night The team provides protection for a pregnant marine. (S)(R)

8.00 NCIS: Mistletoe & Murder Tony's father visits for Christmas. Guest starring Robert Wagner. (S)(R)
8.55 5 News Weekend (S)

9.00 Football on 5: The Championship George Riley and Lynsey Hipgrave introduce highlights from the weekend's games in the Championship. (S)

10.00 Football on 5: Goal Rush Goals from the weekend's games in the Leagues One and Two. (S)
10.30 That's So 1989 A look at the events of 1989, which saw the fall of the Berlin Wall. (S)(R)

11.30 Impractical Jokers UK The boys set up a fake sweet shop. (S)

12.00 SuperCasino 3.10 FILM Wrong Turn (2003) (18) Horror, starring Eliza Dushku. (S) **4.35** Access (R) **4.50** House Doctor (S)(R) **5.15** House Doctor (S)(R) **5.40** Angels of Jarm (S)(R) **5.50** Roary the Racing Car (S)(R)

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DIGITAL

ITV2 SKY: 118 FV: 6

6.00 Planet's Funniest Animals **6.20** Emmerdale **8.50** Coronation Street **11.45** I'm a Celebrity Get Me Out of Here! Coming Out **12.50** The Hot Desk: Jonas Blue **1.00** Catchphrase Mother's Day Special **2.00** Hairspray Live! **4.40** FILM: Peter Pan (2003) (PG) Fantasy adventure, with Jeremy Sumpter and Rachel Hurd-Wood. **5.40** FYI Daily **5.45** FILM: Peter Pan (2003) (PG) Concluded. **6.50** FILM: The Incredible Hulk (2008) (12) A scientist who changes into a monster when angry is hunted by a general who wants to use the creature as a weapon. Comic-book adventure, starring Edward Norton and Liv Tyler. **7.50** FYI Daily **7.55** FILM: The Incredible Hulk (2008) (12) Concluded. **9.00** Scorpion **10.05** The Xtra Factor Live **11.05** Celebrity Juice Christmas Special **12.05** Family Guy **1.05** American Dad! **1.55** Bordertown **2.45** Teleshopping **5.45** ITV2 Nightscreen

ITV3 SKY: 119 FV: 10

6.00 Movies Now **6.10** Doctor at Large **6.35** FILM: The Nun's Story (1959) (PG) Drama, starring Audrey Hepburn. **7.35** FYI Daily **7.40** FILM: The Nun's Story (1959) (PG) Concluded. **9.35** FILM: Columbo: Dagger of the Mind (1972) (PG) Detective drama, starring Peter Falk and Honor Blackman. **11.35** A Touch of Frost **1.35** Inspector Morse **3.50** Midsomer Murders **8.00** Doc Martin **9.00** The Booze Cruise 2: The Treasure Hunt **11.00** A Is for Acid **1.10** Wycliffe **2.10** ITV3 Nightscreen **2.30** Teleshopping

BBC4 SKY: 116 FV: 9

7.00 The Other Pompeii: Life and Death in Herculaneum **8.00** Pavlopetri – The City Beneath the Waves **9.00** Modus **10.30** Top of the Pops: 1982 **11.45** Britain's Most Dangerous Songs: Listen to the Banned **12.45** More Dangerous Songs: And the Banned Played On **1.45** Heavy Metal Britannia **3.15** Metal at the BBC **3.45** Close

E4 SKY: 136 FV: 28

6.00 Animals Unleashed **6.45** Baby Daddy **7.35** How I Met Your Mother **8.30** Melissa & Joey **9.25** Made in Chelsea **10.30** Couples Come Dine with Me **11.35** The Goldbergs **12.30** Black-ish **1.30** FILM: Gulliver's Travels (2010) (PG) Fantasy comedy, starring Jack Black. **3.15** Rude(ish) Tube Shorts **3.30** The Big Bang Theory **7.30** FILM: The Twilight Saga: Eclipse (2010) (12) Romantic fantasy sequel, with Kristen Stewart and Robert Pattinson. **10.00** Gogglebox **12.05** The Big Bang Theory **2.00** The Inbetweeners **2.55** Rude Tube **3.50** Young & Hungry **4.10** Animals Unleashed **5.00** Revenge

MORE4 SKY: 138 FV: 14

8.55 Tiny House Nation **9.50** Kirstie's Handmade Christmas **10.55** Car SOS **11.55** Come Dine with Me **2.35** Four in a Bed **5.15** Come Dine with Me **8.00** The World's Weirdest Weather **9.00** Pearl Harbour: Mystery of the Killer Subs **10.00** Edward VIII's Murderous Mistress **11.05** 8 Out of 10 Cats **11.55** 8 Out of 10 Cats Does Countdown **1.00** Father Ted **2.05** Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA **3.40** Close

FILM4 SKY: 315 FV: 15

11.00 Miracle on 34th Street (1947) (U) Christmas drama, starring Edmund Gwenn. **1.00** City of Ember (2008) (PG) Fantasy adventure, starring Saoirse Ronan. **2.50** Love Happens (2009) (12) Romantic drama, starring Aaron Eckhart and Jennifer Aniston. **4.55** We Bought a Zoo (2011) (PG) Fact-based comedy drama, starring Matt Damon. **7.20** Men in Black II (2002) (PG) Sci-fi comedy sequel, starring Will Smith and Tommy Lee Jones. **9.00** Fast & Furious 5 (2011) (12) Action adventure sequel, starring Vin Diesel and Dwayne Johnson. **11.35** The Anomaly (2014) (15) Sci-fi thriller, directed by and starring Noel Clarke. **1.30** Mindscape (2013) (15) Fantasy thriller, starring Mark Strong. **3.35** Close

DAVE SKY: 111 FV: 12

7.15 Jay Leno's Garage **8.00** Celebrity Storage Hunters **10.00** Steve Austin's Broken Skull Challenge **12.00** Top Gear **2.00** Dara O Briain's Go 8 Bit **3.00** Taskmaster **5.00** Celebrity Storage Hunters **7.00** Room 101 **8.20** Would I Lie to You? **9.00** Have I Got a Bit More News for You **10.00** Dave Gorman: Modern Life Is Goodish **11.00** QI XL **12.00** Alan Davies: As Yet Untitled **1.00** Have I Got a Bit More News for You **2.00** Dave Gorman: Modern Life Is Goodish **2.50** Suits **3.35** The Indestructibles **4.00** Close

DRAMA SKY: 158 FV: 20

7.10 Pie in the Sky **11.00** Sharpe **1.00** The Shadow in the North **3.00** Pie in the Sky **6.00** Hetty Wainthropp Investigates **8.00** Murdoch Mysteries **9.00** FILM: Robin Hood: Prince of Thieves (1991) (PG) Action adventure, starring Kevin Costner. **11.45** Waking the Dead **2.10** Cadfael **3.30** Garden Hopping **4.00** Close

SKY1 SKY: 106

6.00 Are You Smarter Than a 10 Year Old? **7.00** Ashley Banjo's Secret Street Crew **8.00** Futurama **8.30** Game Changers **9.00** The Fantasy Football Club **10.00** Soccer AM **11.30** Futurama **1.00** Modern Family **4.00** Harry Hill's Tea-Time **4.30** Yonderland **5.00** Supergirl **6.00** The Flash **7.00** The Simpsons **8.00** Landscape Artist of the Year 2016 **9.00** Don't Tell the Bride **10.00** A League of Their Own US Road Trip **11.00** A League of Their Own **12.00** Karl Pilkington: The Moaning of Life **1.00** Arrow **2.00** Stan Lee's Lucky Man **3.00** Nothing to Declare **4.00** Border Security: Canada's Front Line **5.00** Road Wars

SKY ATLANTIC SKY: 108

6.00 Urban Secrets **7.00** Richard E Grant's Hotel Secrets **8.00** Without a Trace **12.00** Cold Case **4.00** Blue Bloods **9.00** Game of Thrones **11.30** Olive Kitteridge **1.45** Entourage **3.00** Cold Case **4.00** Urban Secrets **5.00** Richard E Grant's Hotel Secrets

W SKY: 109

6.00 Saving Hope **6.45** Extreme Makeover: Home Edition **8.25** The Bill **1.45** EastEnders **4.20** Extreme Makeover: Home Edition **6.20** My Family **9.00** Jonathan Creek **10.20** Luther **11.40** Secrets and Lies **12.40** Code Black **1.35** Being Human USA **2.20** Betty White's Off Their Rockers **3.00** Home Shopping

CHRISTMAS GOLD SKY: 110

7.00 Cheers **7.50** Lovejoy **11.20** One Foot in the Grave **12.40** Only Fools and Horses **4.40** TOTP2 **6.40** Only Fools and Horses **8.30** Victoria Wood's Midlife Christmas **9.50** Bottom **10.30** FILM: Step Brothers (2008) (15) Comedy, starring Will Ferrell and John C Reilly. **12.35** Harry Enfield and Chums **1.55** The Interviews **2.50** I Dream of Jeannie **4.00** Close

SKY SPORTS 1 SKY: 401

6.30 Joshua/Molina: Behind the Ropes **7.00** Joshua/Molina: The Countdown **7.30** Joshua v Molina: The Gloves Are Off **8.00** Game Changers **8.30** Premier League Preview **9.00** The Fantasy Football Club **10.00** Soccer AM **11.30** Live Premier League. Watford v Everton (kick-off 12.30pm). **3.00** Gillette Soccer Saturday **5.15** Live EFL. Preston North End v Blackburn Rovers (kick-off 5.30pm). **8.00** EFL Goals **8.30** Nissan Game of the Day **10.30** Nissan Match Choice **11.30** Premier League Highlights

Sunday December 11th

DAYTIME

BBC1

10.00 Fern Britton Meets Michael Gove (S) **11.00 Sunday Politics** (S) **12.15 Bargain Hunt** (S)(R) **1.00 BBC News;** Weather (S) **1.15 Homes Under the Hammer** (S)(R) **2.00 Escape to the Country** (S)(R) **2.45 Lifeline** (S) **2.55 FILM Kung Fu Panda (2008) (PG)** (S) **4.20 Planet Earth II** (S)(R) **5.20 Songs of Praise** (S) **5.55 BBC News** (S) **6.10 BBC Regional News; Weather** (S) **6.20 Countryfile** (S)

7 **7.20 Strictly Come Dancing: The Results** Tess Daly and Claudia Winkleman reveal who is through to the final. (S)

8 **8.00 Planet Earth II** Footage of wild animals that live in cities. Last in the series. (S)

9 **9.00 My Mother and Other Strangers** Rose rejects Dreyfuss when he returns to the village. Last in the series. (S)

10 **10.00 BBC News** (S)
10.20 BBC Regional News; Weather (S)
10.30 Match of the Day 2 Mark Chapman reviews the day's Premier League action. (S)

11 **11.45 Sunny D** Stefan has a plan to solve all of Dane's problems. Last in the series. (S)

AFTER **12** **12.10 Citizen Khan** (S)(R) **12.40** Weather for the Week Ahead (S) **12.45** BBC News (S)

BBC2

8.45 Countryfile (S)(R) **9.45 Saturday Kitchen Best Bites** (S) **11.15 Tom Kerridge's Proper Pub Food** (S)(R) **11.45 Best Bakes Ever** (S)(R) **12.15 MOTD2 Extra** (S) **1.00 FILM Quantrill's Raiders (1958) (U)** (S) **2.10 FILM Dial M for Murder (1954) (PG)** (S) **3.50 Athletics: European Cross Country Championships** (S) **4.50 Heir Hunters** (S)(R) **5.35 Flog It!** (S)(R) **6.35 The Toys That Made Christmas** (S)(R)

8.00 FILM The Lone Ranger (2013) (12) Premiere. Western, starring Armie Hammer and Johnny Depp. Edited for pre-watershed broadcast. (S)

10.20 QI XL Extended episode, with Richard Osman, Lolly Adefope and Lee Mack. (S)

11.05 Black Is the New Black The experiences of people who are black and British. (S)(R)
11.35 Black Is the New Black Thoughts on growing up. (S)(R)

12.05 FILM Ash Wednesday (2002) (18) Thriller, starring Edward Burns. (S) **1.40** Sign Zone: Countryfile (S)(R) **2.35** Holby City (S)(R) **3.35** This Is BBC Two

ITV

8.30 Scrambled!: Thunderbirds Are Go (S) **9.05 Scrambled!: Adventure Time** (S)(R) **9.25 ITV News** (S) **9.30 Wild Australia with Ray Mears** (S)(R) **10.00 Let's Do Christmas with Gino & Mel** (S)(R) **11.00 FILM Dragonheart (1996) (PG) 12.55 ITV News** (S) **1.00 Midsomer Murders** (S)(R) **2.55 The X Factor** (S)(R) **5.00 The Chase** (S)(R) **6.00 ITV Regional News** (S) **6.15 ITV News** (S) **6.30 Off Their Rockers** (S)

7.00 The Next Great Magician Stephen Mulhern and Rochelle Humes present the series finale. Last in the series. (S)

8.00 The X Factor Dermot O'Leary introduces the climax of the talent contest. Last in the series. (S)

10.05 ITV News; Weather (S)
10.25 Ball and Boe: One Night Only Double Olivier Award-winning star of the stage Michael Ball and top tenor Alfie Boe join forces. (S)(R)

11.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show USA The host takes his successful talk show stateside. (S)(R)

12.10 Jackpot247 3.00 Motorsport UK (S) **3.50 ITV Nightscreen 5.05** The Jeremy Kyle Show (S)(R)

Channel 4

6.15 The King of Queens (S)(R) **7.30 Everybody Loves Raymond** (S)(R) **8.25 Frasier** (S)(R) **9.30 Sunday Brunch** (S) **12.25 Deal or No Deal** (S) **1.20 The Big Bang Theory** (S)(R) **2.35 The Simpsons** (S)(R) **4.00 FILM Jingle All the Way (1996) (PG)** Comedy, starring Arnold Schwarzenegger. (S) **5.45 Channel 4 News** (S) **6.15 FILM Paddington (2014) (PG)** (S)

8.00 Christmas at the Chateau Dick and Angel await the arrival of guests expecting a luxurious Christmas. Last in the series. (S)

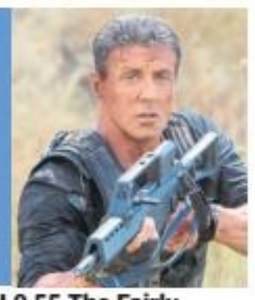
9.00 Humans Laura seeks Niska's help as Mia and Hester prepare to break into the silo. (S)

10.00 Gogglebox Capturing the households' instant reactions to what they are watching on TV from the comfort of their own sofas. (S)(R)

11.00 FILM Filth (2013) (18) Black comedy, starring James McAvoy and Imogen Poots. (S)

12.50 FILM The Iceman (2012) (15) Fact-based crime drama, starring Michael Shannon. (S) **2.35** The Last Leg (S)(R) **3.30** Kirstie and Phil's Love It or List It (S)(R) **4.20** Location, Location, Location (S)(R) **5.10** Deal or No Deal (S)(R)

Channel 5



6.00 Milkshake! 9.55 The Fairly OddParents (S)(R) **10.30 Football on 5: The Championship** (S)(R) **11.30 Football on 5: Goal Rush** (S)(R) **12.00 The Gadget Show** (S)(R) **12.55 Cats Make You Laugh Out Loud** (S)(R) **1.55 FILM Grumpy Cat's Worst Christmas Ever (2014) (PG)** (S) **3.35 FILM A Prince for Christmas (2015) (PG)** (S) **5.20 FILM A Cinderella Christmas (2016) (PG)** (S)

7.10 FILM Jackie Chan's The Forbidden Kingdom (2008) (12) Martial arts adventure, starring Jet Li. Edited for violence and language. (S)

9.00 FILM The Expendables 3 (2014) (12) Premiere. Action thriller sequel, starring Sylvester Stallone and Mel Gibson. Includes 5 News Update at 10pm. (S)

11.25 FILM The Last Stand (2013) (15) Action thriller, starring Arnold Schwarzenegger and Johnny Knoxville. (S)

1.15 SuperCasino 3.10 Secret Life of Puppies: Terrible Twos (S)(R) **4.00** Now That's Funny! (S)(R) **4.50** House Doctor (S)(R) **5.15** House Doctor (S)(R) **5.40** Angels of Jarm (S)(R) **5.50** Roary the Racing Car (S)(R)

DIGITAL

ITV2 SKY: 118 FV: 6

6.00 Emmerdale **8.20** Coronation Street **11.10** The X Factor **1.20** Take Me Out Celebrity Christmas Special **2.30** You've Been Framed! Gold At Christmas **3.30** FILM: The Polar Express (2004) (U) Animated adventure, with the voice of Tom Hanks. **4.30** FYI Daily **4.35** FILM: The Polar Express (2004) (U) Concluded. **5.25** The Smurfs: A Christmas Carol **5.55** Catchphrase Christmas Special **6.55** You've Been Framed! Gold At Christmas **8.00** FILM: The Mask (1994) (PG) Comic-book comedy, starring Jim Carrey. **9.00** FYI Daily **9.05** FILM: The Mask (1994) (PG) Concluded. **10.05** The Xtra Factor **11.05** Family Guy **12.35** American Dad! **1.30** The Cleveland Show **2.25** Teleshopping **5.55** ITV2 Nightscreen

ITV3 SKY: 119 FV: 10

6.00 Movies Now **6.10** A Touch of Frost **7.55** Heartbeat **9.55** Wycliffe **11.05** Inspector Morse **1.20** FILM: Columbo: By Dawn's Early Light (1974) (PG) Crime drama, starring Peter Falk and Patrick McGoohan. **3.30** FILM: Les Miserables (1978) (PG) Period drama, starring Richard Jordan. **4.35** FYI Daily **4.40** FILM: Les Miserables (1978) (PG) Concluded. **5.55** Agatha Christie's Marple **8.00** Rosemary & Thyme **10.00** Alexander Armstrong's Land of the Midnight Sun **11.05** FILM: Elizabeth: The Golden Age (2007) (12) Historical drama sequel, starring Cate Blanchett. **12.05** FYI Daily **12.10** FILM: Elizabeth: The Golden Age (2007) (12) **1.25** Inspector Morse **3.15** May the Best House Win **4.55** You're Only Young Twice **5.45** ITV3 Nightscreen

BBC4 SKY: 116 FV: 9

7.00 Horizon: The Secret Life of the Dog **8.00** Choir of the Year 2016 **9.30** The Flying Archaeologist **10.00** The Sky at Night **10.30** Horizon: Seeing Stars **11.30** How to Build a Nuclear Submarine **12.30** Masterspy of Moscow: George Blake – Storyville **2.00** Monkey Planet **3.00** The Other Pompeii: Life and Death in Herculaneum **4.00** Close

E4 SKY: 136 FV: 28

6.00 Baby Daddy **6.45** Melissa & Joey **7.35** How I Met Your Mother **8.30** The Goldbergs **9.30** Hollyoaks **12.00** Made in Chelsea **1.00** FILM: Diary of a Wimpy Kid (2010) (PG) Family comedy, starring Zachary Gordon. **3.00** The Big Bang Theory: Time Warped **9.00** FILM: Ted (2012) (15) Comedy, starring Mark Wahlberg. **11.00** Tattoo Fixers **12.05** Naked Attraction **1.10** Gogglebox **2.15** New Girl **3.45** Hollyoaks

MORE4 SKY: 138 FV: 14

8.55 Time Team **9.55** Kirstie's Handmade Christmas **11.00** Vet on the Hill **12.00** Come Dine with Me **2.40** Four in a Bed **5.20** Come Dine with Me **8.00** Car SOS **9.00** Father Ted Christmas Special **10.10** Father Ted **11.15** 8 Out of 10 Cats Does Countdown **12.20** The Golden Rules of Porn **2.00** Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA **3.00** 8 Out of 10 Cats Christmas Special **3.35** Close

FILM4 SKY: 315 FV: 15

11.00 Santa Fe (1951) (U) Western, starring Randolph Scott. **1.00** Short Circuit 2 (1988) (PG) Sci-fi comedy sequel, with Fisher Stevens. **3.15** Carry On Teacher (1959) (U) Comedy, starring Ted Ray. **5.00** Field of Dreams (1989) (PG) Baseball fantasy, with Kevin Costner and Ray Liotta. **7.05** Unstoppable (2010) (12) Tony Scott's action thriller, with Denzel Washington and Chris Pine. **9.00** Men in Black 3 (2012) (PG) Sci-fi comedy sequel, starring Will Smith. **11.10** The Descendants (2011) (15) Drama, starring George Clooney. **1.25** The Number 23 (2007) (15) **3.25** Close

DAVE SKY: 111 FV: 12

7.00 The Indestructibles **7.20** James May's Cars of the People **8.10** Top Gear **9.40** Top Gear Bolivia Special **11.20** Motorway Cops **12.20** Storage Hunters **1.20** American Pickers **5.20** Top Gear Bolivia Special **7.00** James May's Cars of the People **8.00** QI XL **9.00** Have I Got a Bit More News for You **10.00** Taskmaster **12.00** QI XL **1.00** Have I Got a Bit More News for You **2.55** 8 Out of 10 Cats **3.35** The Indestructibles **4.00** Close

DRAMA SKY: 158 FV: 20

7.10 Pie in the Sky **8.00** The Bill **12.00** Death Comes to Pemberley **4.00** Catherine Cookson's The Round Tower **7.00** Murdoch Mysteries **8.00** New Tricks **9.00** Silent Witness **11.10** Spooks **1.50** The Great Train Robbery **3.30** Garden Hopping **4.00** Close

SKY1 SKY: 106

6.00 Hour of Power **7.00** Futurama **9.00** Supergirl **10.00** The Flash **11.00** WWE: Raw **12.00** FILM: Stargate: Continuum (2008) (PG) Sci-fi adventure, starring Ben Browder. **2.00** Futurama **3.00** Modern Family **5.00** The Simpsons **6.00** Harry Hill's Tea-Time **6.30** The Simpsons **8.00** A League of Their Own **9.00** Attenborough at 90: Behind the Lens **10.00** The Force: Essex **11.00** The Force: Manchester **12.00** Ross Kemp on Gangs **1.00** Strike Back: Project Dawn **3.00** DC's Legends of Tomorrow **4.00** Border Security: Canada's Front Line **5.00** Road Wars

SKY ATLANTIC SKY: 108

6.00 Urban Secrets **7.00** Richard E Grant's Hotel Secrets **8.00** The West Wing **1.00** Without a Trace **5.00** Cold Case **9.00** Westworld **10.45** The Affair **11.55** The Young Pope **1.05** Divorce **1.40** Entourage **3.00** The Affair **4.10** Urban Secrets **5.00** Richard E Grant's Hotel Secrets

W SKY: 109

6.15 Singing in the Rainforest **7.10** Your Home in Their Hands **8.30** EastEnders **11.00** Extreme Makeover: Home Edition **1.00** Doctor Who **5.00** My Family **7.40** The Catherine Tate Show **11.20** The Call Centre **1.20** Being Human USA **3.00** Home Shopping

CHRISTMAS GOLD SKY: 110

7.00 Cheers **7.50** Lovejoy **10.10** Only Fools and Horses **2.00** Richard E Grant on Ealing Comedies **3.05** FILM: Meet Mr Lucifer (1953) (PG) Fantasy comedy, starring Stanley Holloway. **4.45** FILM: Up the Front (1972) (PG) First World War comedy, starring Frankie Howerd. **6.30** FILM: Shakespeare in Love (1998) (15) Period romantic comedy, starring Joseph Fiennes and Gwyneth Paltrow. **9.00** FILM: Step Brothers (2008) (15) Comedy, starring Will Ferrell and John C Reilly. **11.05** Men Behaving Badly **1.00** Extras **2.20** Harry Hill's TV Burp **2.55** I Dream of Jeannie **4.00** Close

SKY SPORTS 1 SKY: 401

6.00 Premier League Highlights **8.00** The Sunday Supplement **9.30** Goals on Sunday **11.30** Live EFL. Derby County v Nottingham Forest (kick-off 12.00pm). **2.00** Live Nissan Super Sunday. Manchester United v Tottenham Hotspur (kick-off 2.15pm). **4.15** Live Nissan Super Sunday. Liverpool v West Ham United (kick-off 4.30pm). **7.00** EFL Goals **7.30** Spanish Football Gold **7.40** Live La Liga Football. Real Betis v Athletic Bilbao (kick-off 7.45pm). **9.40** Spanish Football Gold **10.00** Premier League Highlights **11.30** Goals on Sunday **12.30** Premier League Highlights **1.00** Live NFL **4.30** Football's Greatest Teams **5.00** Premier League 100 Club **5.30** Spanish Football Gold

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Sun 27th Nov • £13.50 adv • 7pm
Walking On Cars

Sun 27th Nov • £10 adv • 7.30pm
Avatar - "Feathers & Flesh"

Wed 30th Nov • £18 adv • 6.30pm
Steve-O (Jackass)

Wed 30th Nov • £5 adv • 9.30pm
Fishies Sports Night

Thu 1st Dec • £22.50 adv • 7pm
Kula Shaker - K Tour, 20th Anniversary

Fri 2nd Dec • £8 adv • 7pm
Uprising – BBC Introducing
+ 31 Hours
+ Kanadia
+ Dolly Mavies
+ Wednesday's Wolves
+ A Way With Words

Sat 3rd Dec • £11 adv • 6.30pm
Motorheadache (A Tribute to Lemmy)

Sun 4th Dec • £22 adv • 7pm
Chas & Dave
+ Chasing Daylight

Tue 6th Dec • SOLD OUT • 7pm
The Fratellis - Costello Music 10th Anniversary Tour

Wed 7th Dec • £5 adv • 9.30pm
Fishies Sports Night

Thu 8th Dec • £26.50 adv • 7pm
Primal Scream

Thu 8th Dec • £16.50 adv • 7pm
The Wedding Present

Fri 9th Dec • £14 adv • 6.30pm
Absolute Bowie (Tribute) - Celebrating the life of David Bowie

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Minor Victories
+ Ulrika Spacek

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+ James Bell & The Half Moon All Stars

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Switch NYE 2016/17
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+ Mollie Collins

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+ Hannah Clapham

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Fri 17th Feb • £10 adv • 6.30pm
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Sun 12th Mar • £8 adv • 7pm
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+ Killer Bee

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Lucy Spraggan

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Tue 21st Mar • £8.50 adv • 7pm
Declan McKenna

Tue 21st Mar • £8 adv • 7pm
The Wailers

Thu 23rd Mar • £16.50 adv • 7pm
Bear's Den

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Mon 27th Mar • £20 adv • 7pm
Blackberry Smoke

Tue 28th Mar • £19.50 adv • 7pm
Warpaint

Tue 4th Apr • £16 adv • 7pm
Mallory Knox
+ Lonely The Brave
+ Fatherson

Sat 22nd Mar • £15 adv • 7pm
Electric Six

Sat 6th May • £16 adv • 6.30pm
Ward Thomas

Fri 9th June • £25 adv • 7pm
The Skids - 40th Anniversary Show

Sat 24th June • £18 adv • 7pm
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+ Roddy Radiation
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+ King Hammond
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ENTERTAINMENT & LISTINGS

Classical tunes with Blake

By James Richings

FOR nearly a decade, classical crossover band Blake have achieved great success.

Ollie Baines, Stephen Bowman and Humphrey Bernie have released six studio albums with their seventh due to be completed next year.

They have toured all over the world, performed with music legends such as Shirley Bassey and have played concerts in such prestigious venues as Buckingham Palace.

And with the three friends stopping off at Henley's Kenton Theatre this Saturday, December 10 as part of their 'Christmas with Blake' show, surely this can't be a show to miss.

The trio are on their final stretch of shows for 2016, with six more concerts to fulfil after their Henley visit.

"We actually formed via Facebook back in 2007 then had an audition with Universal Records which got us started on our decade journey to today," Stephen told the Guardian.

"When we formed, the best advice we've ever had was this simple line "you've got to be in it to win it".

"Basically, most artists give up before they make success for themselves. You need patience."

Named after the famous poet William Blake, the group are no strangers to performing in Oxfordshire.

Frequent shows at the Cornerstone Arts Centre in Didcot and at Henley's Kenton Theatre over the last few years have made the trio regulars within the county.

Their most recent visit to the town was in the summer when they headlined at the Henley Festival, which saw them attract one of the biggest crowds at the event.

The trio's goal is to get the Henley faithful in the mood for Christmas, as Ollie, Stephen and Humphrey will perform a number of popular festive songs – current tunes and hits from yesteryear with a classical twist.

"There will never be a substitute for live music even with the digital age advancing so fast with streaming and VR concerts," Stephen said.

"The genuine analogue visceral thrill of seeing a performer just metres away from you, singing their heart out, will always be the driving catalyst for the next generation of musicians."

• Stephen Bowman

Stephen also had some advice for any aspiring singer/musician.

"Get out and perform as much as you can, starting with guest slots at any concerts who will take you.

"Getting experience on real stages in front of real people is key.

"Also, get used to videoing your performances at home and when you're in front of audiences, watch them back, see how you come across and learn from each gig.

"Self analysis is really useful for performers, but many are scared of it."

The concert will start at 7.30pm and tickets cost £19.

Unearth Clay in The Cellar

IF you haven't popped down to The Cellar for a while, make sure you visit it this Sunday

Leeds based indie band Clay are making their debut performance in the city at the Frewin Court venue.

Made up of brothers Joe (vocals) and Jack Harvey (guitar), Rob Gration (bass) and Danny Armitage (drums), the group are currently on their second tour of the UK, but admitted that they 'have neglected the south a little bit'.

Jack hopes to rectify this with a five star show this weekend where they'll perform recent releases including their most popular track, '6AM'.

"This will be our first time in Oxford so we're massively excited about it," Jack said.

"We've perhaps neglected the south a little bit as this is only our second ever headline tour, but we've had massive demand from Oxford so had to make it happen. The show is going to be insane."

Jack added: "Getting noticed in the music industry is easy providing you have good songs, so we don't really get too bogged down with 'getting noticed' as long as the fans love it.

"If they do the rest will follow as forming a group is the hard part.

"Finding people on your wavelength who have the same stylistic vision as you and commitment to pursue it, is quite rare. Once you find it, that's very special."

Tickets cost £7.70 and it starts at 7.30pm.

• Clay (from left) Jack Harvey, Joe Harvey Danny Armitage, Rob Gration

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ENTERTAINMENT & LISTINGS

Adam can't help clowning around

By James Richings

AUSTRALIAN comic Adam Hills will be in Oxford this Saturday as part of his UK tour 'Clown Heart'.

His visit to the George Street venue will be the farewell to his tour which began at the end of last year, and has taken him to venues all over the country.

And with this being one of the 46-year-old's most successful tours to date, 'The Last Leg' presenter hopes he can finish his run of shows on a high.

His previous tour, 'Happyism' ran throughout 2013 and 2014.

"During the last tour, I had a pre-show ritual of going tenpin bowling every night," he said.

"But when I was in Barnstaple, I didn't have time before the show so I decided to take the audience bowling afterwards.

"So at the end of the show, I took 240 people – about half the audience – along to the bowling alley where we also did karaoke, the arcades and air hockey.

"We stayed there until one in the morning.

"As I left, there was a couple in their late 40s still playing air hockey and just giggling.

"So when you're touring, you can trudge through stuff and it's great to have a moment of pure spontaneity like that.

"Each show should be an event rather than a guy just talking for an hour."

Famous both in the UK and his native Australia, the comic is on the verge of completing his 16th solo tour since making his stand-up debut 27-years ago and following his popularity on stage, Adam has also moved into different fields.

Most notably the comedian is also a television presenter and hosts 'The Last Leg' with fellow comedians Josh Widdicombe and Alex Brooker.

But for Adam, stand-up is his number one priority.

"I love the freedom of live comedy," he said.

"I have 60 minutes of material, but each show lasts 90 minutes and every night I try and improvise 30 minutes based on who is in the crowd.

"Otherwise, I'd get bored doing the same show over and over again."

Adam, was also born with just one foot and uses his disability to his advantage, mentioning his missing limb in a number of his acts.

"I remember saying to the audience once, 'Oh no, I have left my spare prosthetic leg in the dressing room and if the police see that in the corner of the room, they'll think, 'we're too late – the bomb's already gone off!'"

The show starts at 8pm and tickets cost £38.90.

• Adam Hills

Awesome Fawesome

LIVE MUSIC: High Wycombe based band Fawesome will be gigging at O'Neill's in the centre of Oxford next Friday, December 16.

The foursome arrive at the George Street venue to perform tunes from ZZ Top, Bon Jovi and many more.

The free gig starts at 9.30pm.

Family fun show

THEATRE: Christmas fun will be heading to the Kenton Theatre in Henley from Thursday, December 15 to Wednesday, December 28, as 'Sleeping Beauty' comes to town.

The festive production sees a beautiful princess put to sleep who can only wake up when a handsome prince is found and kisses her.

Will Sleeping Beauty ever wake up?

Tickets cost from £21 to £62.

Tribute to Star Man

LIVE MUSIC: A concert to celebrate the life of David Bowie will take place at the O2 Academy tomorrow night, Friday, December 9.

'Absolute Bowie' will feature an evening of the most popular Bowie tunes from the 70s up to tracks off his final album, 'Blackstar'.

David Bowie died on January 10 this year, two days after his 69th birthday.

Tickets cost £15.75 and it will begin at 9pm.

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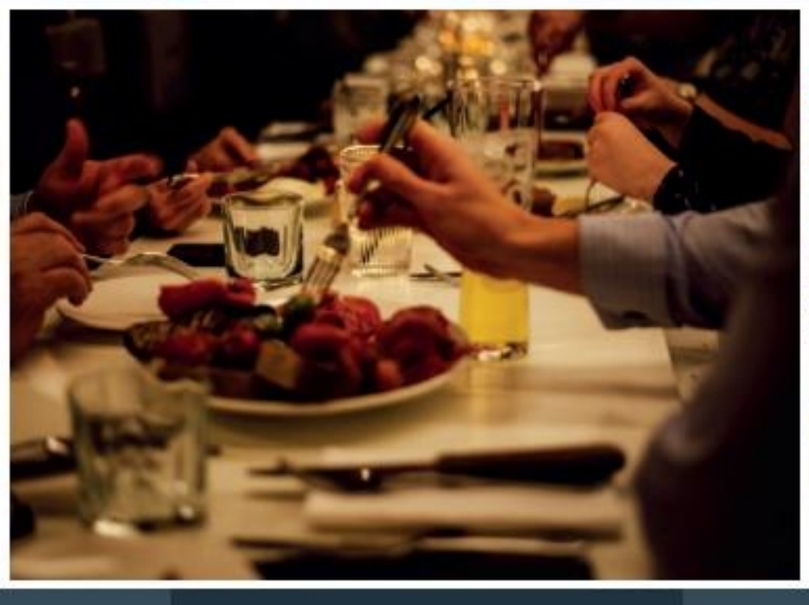

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ENTERTAINMENT & LISTINGS

Snowflakes set to warm up city in a festive treat

By James Richings

EVERY year brings hope of a white Christmas which more often than not never arrives.

But this year could be different as, 'Snowflakes' is heading to the Oxford Playhouse from today, Thursday, December 8 to New Year's Eve.

Written by CBeebies presenter, children's author and disabilities campaigner Cerrie Burnell, the show tells of a young girl called Mia who has gone to live with her grandma, a considerable distance away from where she was born.

When she arrives at her grandma's house, Mia realises it isn't at all like her old life in the city and becomes worried, scared and homesick.

At first she feels very different from the new children she sees, but when she watches the snow falling around her one night, Mia realises that she is just like one of the snowflakes – unique and perfect in her own way.

Actress Nazerene Williams, who plays in the lead role of Mia, believes the play will be a big hit with the Beaumont Street crowd.

"This show that is coming to Oxford is a warm reassuring story about new beginnings and new friends," she told the Guardian.

"The play is about everyone wanting to make friends as everyone wants to love, be loved, and everyone wants to belong."

There will be a total of 47 performances when, 'Snowflakes' arrives in the city, with only the Playhouse's pantomime (Cinderella) having a longer run at the theatre – a large number of performances at the Beaumont Street theatre are already sold out.

Made up of Nazerene Williams, Kate Winder as her grandmother and Antony Antunes as Milo, the production has been directed by the respected Tina Williams, who is also the Pied Piper Theatre Company's artistic director.

The play will also having puppets which have been created by puppet maker Nick Ash.

• *'Snowflakes' run at the Oxford Playhouse until New Year's Eve.*

"This tale is full of wonder, promoting the beauty, power and joy in everyone," actress Kate said.

"This is literally a perfect treat and first theatre experience for little ones."

Antony added: "This is a magical show so it is very important for children to go and watch live theatre.

"We live in a world where many children sit in front of TV or computer screens, and live theatre is a totally different experience."

He then added: "I absolutely love that great feeling of an audience appreciating a production after so much work goes into it!"

All the tickets cost £8 and the play is suitable for children aged between three and six.

Craig's Oxford Party

LIVE MUSIC: Craig Charles will be heading to the O2 Academy next Friday, December 16.

The DJ, who is also a poet, actor and comedian, comes to the Cowley Road venue to perform some of the biggest funk and soul tunes of all time.

The 52-year-old gigged at the O2 Academy a year ago to a sell-out crowd.

Suitable for over 18s, tickets cost £19.12 and it will start at 10pm.

The Chase is on in Cowley

LIVE MUSIC: Rock musician Rick Chase will be arriving at The Cricketers Arms in Cowley on Saturday, December 17.

The performer comes to the Temple Road pub to perform tunes by the likes of Queen, Bryan Adams, Gary Moore, Phil Lynott, Status Quo and many more.

It's a repeat performance at the pub for Chase. The gig is free and it starts at 9pm.

Pirates plunder O2

LIVE MUSIC: Local band Peerless Pirates will be gigging at the O2 Academy next Friday, December 16.

The group, who are made up of Cliff Adams, Kyle Mundy, Stu Green and Barry Short will showcase a number of tunes off their self-titled album.

The group performed at the city's first Common People Festival in May.

Tickets cost £9.05 and the doors open at 6.30pm

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ENTERTAINMENT & LISTINGS

Sat, Dec 8 – Sat, Jan 7
North Wall Arts Centre, Oxford
SNOW WHITE AND OTHER TALES FROM THE BROTHERS GRIMM
Enter the magical world of the Brothers Grimm where straw can be spun into gold, the moon can be kidnapped, death can be bargained with and whatever you do, don't trust your parents. From the director of last year's raucous Treasure Island and 2014's freewheeling Wind in the Willows comes another eccentric Christmas treat for all the family.For the first time we'll be transforming The North Wall into a theatre in the round with the stalls arranged around circular tables so you can get up close with the action.

Thu, Dec 8, 7pm
O2 Academy, Oxford
PRIMAL SCREAM
Back doing what they do best, Primal Scream are touring the UK

after the release of their single 'Feeling Like A Demon Again' (28 October), a simmering synth pop anthem, taken from their eleventh, critically acclaimed album, Chaosmosis.

Fri, Dec 9, 7.30pm
Corn Exchange, Wallingford
A STREET CAT NAMED BOB
Based on the international best selling book.

A Street Cat Named Bob is the true feel-good story of how James Bowen, a busker and recovering drug addict, had his life transformed when he met a stray ginger cat.

Sat, Dec 10, 7.30pm
Kenton Theatre, Henley
BLAKE CHRISTMAS CLASSICS
During this 2-hour stage spectacular BLAKE perform an eclectic range of Yuletide songs, taken from their debut Christmas album available now.

Sat, Dec 10, 8pm
New Theatre, Oxford
ADAM HILLS
Adam's solo shows are established highlights at international comedy festivals around the World. He is the only Australian

comedian to have performed at the US Comedy Arts Festival in Aspen, and is a regular star of the Cat Laughs Kilkenny Comedy Festival in Ireland, and The Just For Laughs Festival in Montreal.

Tue, Dec 13, 7pm
O2 Academy, Oxford
MINOR VICTORIES
Bringing together members of Editors, Slowdive and Mogwai, Minor Victories support their self-titled debut album on a new tour. Independently developed by vocalist Rachel Goswell (Slowdive), guitarists Stuart Braithwaite (Mogwai) and Justin Lockey (Editors), and film-maker James Lockey of Hand Held Cine Club while working on other projects, the band's virtual geography spans the country from Exeter to Glasgow and across the Atlantic.

Tue, Dec 13, 7.30pm
Cornerstone Arts Centre, Didcot
OPEN MIC NIGHT
Brighten up your Tuesday evening at our Open Mic night at Nourish. We are constantly impressed by the number of amazing musicians and artists in the area and by the warmth of the audience.

Tue, Dec 13 – Sat, Dec 31
New Theatre, Oxford
THE ROCKY HORROR SHOW
The world's favourite rock 'n' roll musical is back by popular demand to thrill you once again with its frothy fun and naughty moments! Following over 40 years of worldwide productions, Richard O'Brien's Rocky Horror Show is a non-stop party!

Wed, Dec 14, 7pm
Cornerstone Arts Centre, Didcot
A CHRISTMAS CAROL
A Christmas Carol was the first public performance Charles Dickens gave of his own work. He enacted it over 150 times and the effect on the public was phenomenal. 'The success was most wonderful and prodigious – perfectly overwhelming and astounding altogether!' he said after the first night. This Christmas, you can experience what it must have been like to be in the audience! European Arts Company is faithfully recreating Dickens's famous performance of his bestloved and most heartwarming story. Come and enjoy a seasonal treat in the spirit of Christmas past, present and future.

Thu, Dec 13 – Fri, Dec 23
Old Fire Station, Oxford
30 CHRISTMASES
'Christmas Eve, eleven years ago, was the last time we saw Dad. Oh, hello, I'm Jonny. This is my sister Rachel. And this is Paddy, who's... always there.'
Jonny and Rachel haven't had a good Christmas in years, but this time they're going to get it right. Join them for a joyful, heartfelt comedy about trying to make Christmas happen – despite everything.
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Fri, Dec 16, 8pm
Cornerstone Arts Centre, Didcot
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the house down every time with their energy and excitement. You will be up and dancing along to their tight party funk sound, featuring powerful soulful vocals, driving bass and immense drums.

Wed, Dec 16 – Thu, Dec 17
Cornerstone Arts Centre, Didcot
DIDCOT GIRLS SCHOOL
Didcot Girls' School & Didcot Sixth Form College dance students will be performing a variety of dance pieces at their annual Dance Showcase this autumn. The evening will consist of class work from both GCSE and A Level alongside choreographed pieces performed by all the dance clubs.

Mon, Dec 19, 7.45pm
The Theatre, Chipping Norton
ST AGNES FOUNTAIN
St Agnes Fountain come together for one month a year; 'the Christmas Tour 'each December. Performing "rhythmed-up" carols and Christmas music, interspersed with laughter and spoken word, they begin their 16th sell-out year in December.

Mon, Jan 2, 6pm
The Theatre, Chipping Norton
FANTASTIC BEASTS AND WHERE TO FIND THEM
Eddie Redmayne seeks magical creatures in the first part of an amazing new Harry Potter spinoff series. Many decades before Harry Potter arrives at Hogwarts, 'Magizoologist' Newt Scamander (Eddie Redmayne) embarks on a mission to catalogue the world's magical creatures. In New York, he encounters many extraordinary characters, including a wizard named Graves (Colin Farrell).

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PROPERTY WEEKLY

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Cottage available for rent

A THREE-BEDROOM semi-detached cottage in the popular village of Littleworth, near the market town of Faringdon, is available for rental.

It is on the market for £1,100 per calendar month (fees apply) through Martin and Co estate agent's Witney office. It will be available from next month.

The beautifully presented home a living/dining room which exudes charm with exposed walls, beams and a feature fireplace with a log burner stove. To the ground floor, there is also a modern

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Tenants have benefitted from below-inflation rent rises over recent years

Bill Cooper, co-author of The Oxford Property Blog and managing director of Martin and Co, Oxford

Back in the spring, there was a surge in Oxford landlords buying buy-to-let property in Oxford as they tried to beat George Osborne's new stamp duty changes which kicked in on April 1, 2016. To give you an idea of the sort of numbers we are talking about, below are the property statistics for sales either side of the deadline in OX2.

Jan 2016 – 42 properties sold

Feb 2016 – 27 properties sold

March 2016 – 91 properties sold

April 2016 – 19 properties sold

May 2016 – 23 properties sold.

Normally, the number of sales in the spring months is very similar, irrespective of the month. However, as one can see, this year was a completely different picture as landlords moved their purchases forward to beat the stamp duty increase. You would think that even with a basic knowledge of supply and demand economics, rents would be affected in a downwards direction?

However, there appears to be no apparent effect on the levels of rent being asked in Oxford - and, more importantly, achieved - and this direction of rents is not likely to reverse any time soon, particularly as legislation planned for 2017 might reduce rental stock and push property values higher. The decline of buy-to-let mortgage interest tax relief will make some properties loss making, forcing landlords to pass on costs to tenants in the form of higher rents just to stay afloat. Even those who can still operate may be deterred from making further investments, limiting the growth in available rental stock at a time of severe property shortage.

But it's not all bad news for tenants. Whilst average rents in Oxford since 2005 have increased by 22.6%, inflation has been 38.5% over the same time frame, meaning Oxford tenants are 15.9% better off in real terms when it comes to their rent (which is a sizeable chunk of most people's monthly household budgets).

I found it particularly interesting looking at the rent rises over the last five years in Oxford, as it was five years ago we started to see the very early green shoots of growth of the Oxford economy. Following the credit crunch (2011), rents in Oxford have risen by an average of 2.4% a year – fascinating don't you think?

The view I am trying to portray is that while renting is often portrayed as the unfavourable alternative to home ownership, many young Oxford professionals like renting as it gives them flexibility in their life. Overall, tenants have had a good deal with below inflation increases in rents over recent years. As Government policy targets landlords financially, it is likely that there will be a period of higher rent increases across Oxford, as landlords offset the additional costs being imposed on them. The data suggests a small rebalancing between tenants and landlords is overdue, and can be accommodated without driving rent above the medium-term inflation trend.

For more thoughts and opinions on the Oxford property market if you are an Oxford homeowner or Oxford landlord, please visit the Oxford Property Blog at www.OxfordPropertyBlog.co.uk

Year	Average Rent in Oxford per month
2005	2030
2006	2077
2007	2123
2008	2193
2009	2227
2010	2196
2011	2249
2012	2300
2013	2334
2014	2369
2015	2421
2016	2490

Cottage offers taste of country life

* From facing page

fitted kitchen with an oven, hob, fridge freezer, washing machine, integrated dishwasher and patio doors opening onto the garden.

To the first floor, there are two double bedroom, a further single bedroom and family bathroom with bath and a separate shower cubicle.

The property has an enclosed cottage garden and a gated entrance There is off-road parking for two cars and a garage with power and light to the exterior of the property.

Register your interest in renting the cottage by calling Martin and Co's Witney office on 01993 708638.

Buyers urged to get pre-approved in search for perfect home

In many areas, competition for each property on the market is extremely strong, so standing out from the crowd is a must for buyers who wish to secure their dream home.

National estate agents Leaders has an average of 10 buyers for each available property, meaning serious buyers must be able to present themselves as attractively as possible to both sellers and agents.

One key way to achieve this is to get pre-approved, which means being qualified by a mortgage lender prior to starting the search for a place to live.

Kevin Shaw, national sales director at Leaders, says: "A pre-approval is incredibly important as it means a mortgage provider has analysed a person's credit history and credit score and given the green light to them borrowing a specific amount.'

"Essentially, it demonstrates that a buyer can afford the amount required to buy a home, meaning they are less likely to pull out of a purchase as a result of being unable to raise the funds. This makes pre-approved buyers extremely attractive to sellers.

"It also works in favour of buyers themselves who are able to find out for certain what they can borrow before they start searching for a property, providing them with greater confidence and ultimately allowing them to move faster."

Pre-approval is one of a number of steps that shows sellers and estate agents a buyer is committed to purchasing a home

Buyers should consider the four Cs that will help them to work out their borrowing potential:

- Capacity: A person's current and future ability to make mortgage payments
- Capital or cash reserves: Money, savings and investments that can be used for a deposit
- Collateral: The home, or type of home, that a buyer would like to purchase
- Credit: A history of paying bills and other debts on time.

Kevin adds: "Many buyers overestimate the deposit they need to purchase a home and underestimate the amount they may be able to borrow. As such, talking to an expert is the ideal starting point in any search."

For independent, expert advice on mortgages, Leaders is pleased to be partnering with the award-winning Mortgage Advice Bureau (MAB). Their knowledgeable local advisers can search over 11,000 different mortgages from a selection of 90 different lenders to take the hassle and stress out of finding the right mortgage for you. For more information visit www.mortgageadvicebureau.com/leaders

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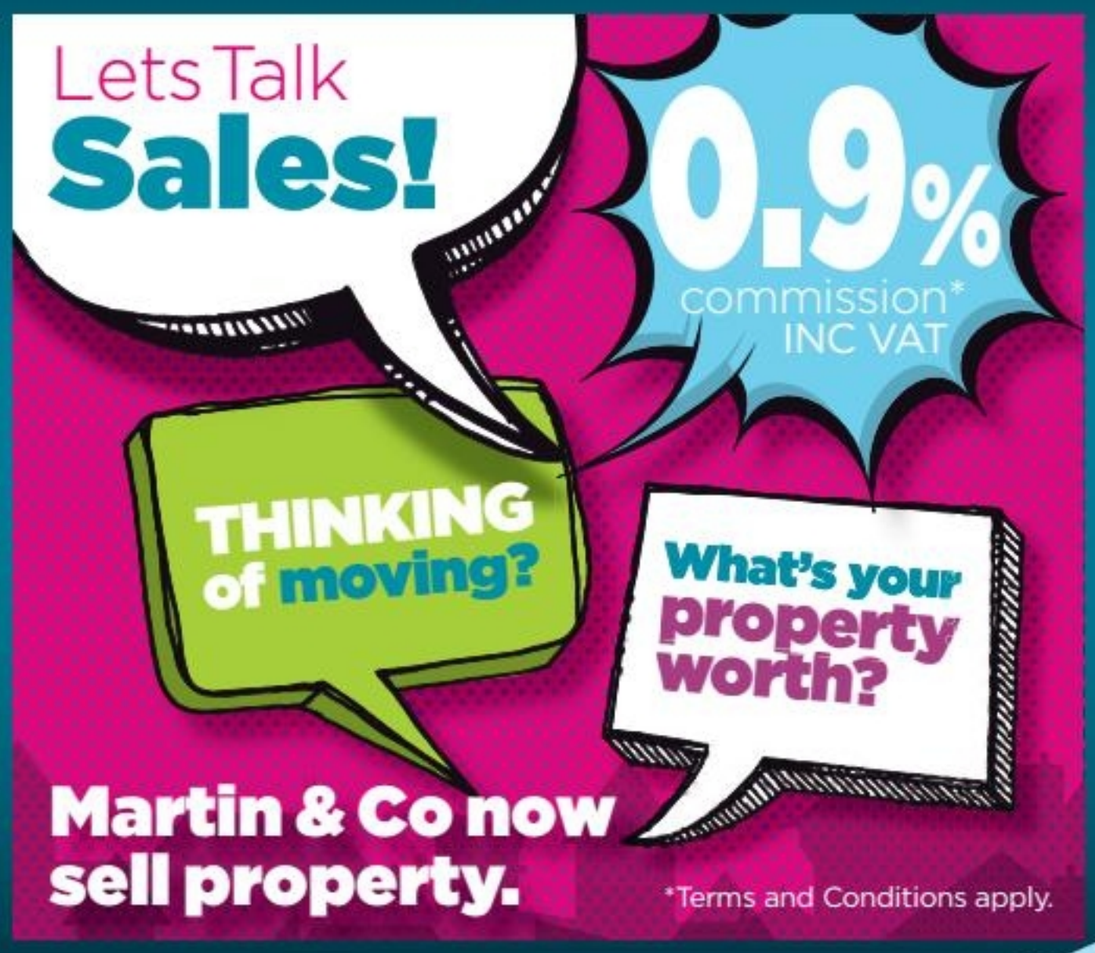

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Bailey Road, Cowley £1675
~~Iffley Road, Cowley £1425~~ LET
Cardwell Crescent, Headington £1300
South Street, Oxford £1650 NEW LISTING

4 BEDS
Bullingdon Road £1840
Kirby Place, Cowley £1495
Regent Street, Cowley £2400
Valentia Road, Headington £1900
~~Stonor Place, Headington £2040~~ LET
Marlborough Road £1700 NEW LISTING

4 BEDS (continued)
East Avenue £2700 NEW LISTING
Cowley Road £2000 NEW LISTING
Marlborough Road £1850 NEW LISTING
~~Henley Street, East Oxford £1995~~ LET
Iffley Road, Cowley £1795
Kirby Place, Cowley £1495
Hillview Road, Botley £1700
~~Ferry Hinksey, Botley £1825~~ LET
Kirby Place, Cowley £1495
Cardwell Crescent, Headington £1900
Kirby Place, Cowley £1495
Wharton Road, Headington £1895
~~Gipsy Lane, Headington £2100~~ LET
Valentia Road, Headington £2100
Randolph Street, Cowley £1795
Cricket Road, Cowley £2400
~~Cowley Road, Cowley £2100~~ LET
Shelley Road, Cowley £1800

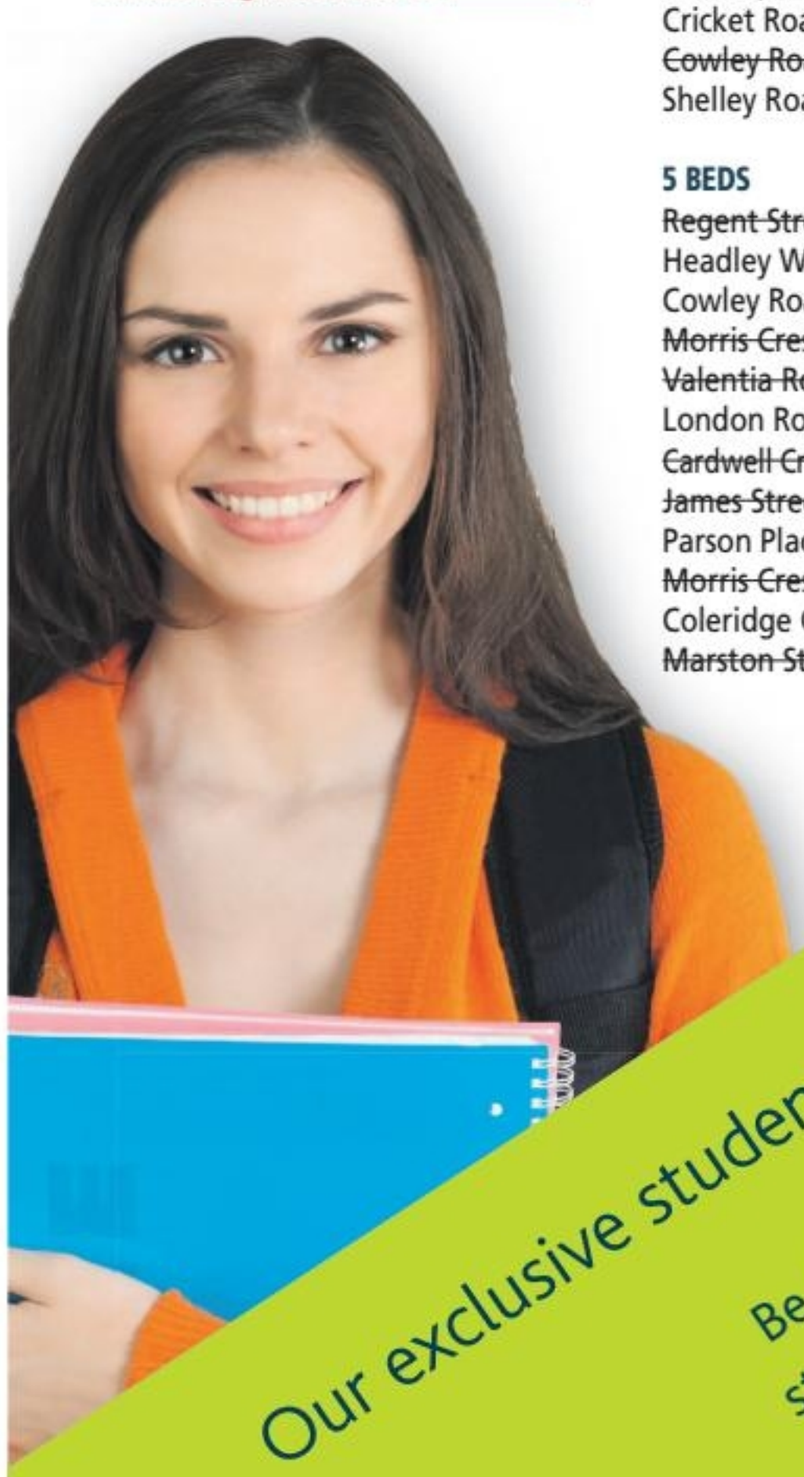
5 BEDS
~~Regent Street, East Oxford £3000~~ LET
Headley Way, Marston £2700
Cowley Road, Cowley £2675
~~Morris Crescent, Cowley £2090~~ LET
~~Valentia Road, Headington £2425~~ LET
London Road, Headington £2625
~~Cardwell Crescent, Headington £2575~~ LET
~~James Street, Cowley £2450~~ LET
Parson Place, St Clements £2250
~~Morris Crescent, Cowley £2575~~ LET
Coleridge Close, Cowley £2500
~~Marston Street, Marston £2200~~ LET

5 BEDS (continued)
Bullingdon Road, Cowley £2500
~~Addison Crescent, Headington £2575~~ LET
~~Osler Road, Headington £2875~~
Minster Road, Headington £2750
Warwick Street, Iffley £2740 NEW LISTING

6 BEDS
Windmill Road, Headington £3750
~~Gipsy Lane, Headington £3150~~ LET
~~Harcourt Terrace £3150~~ LET
~~Valentia Road, Headington £2100~~ LET
~~St Marys Road, Cowley £2850~~
~~Cowley Road , Cowley £3600~~ LET
Cowley Road, Cowley £3600
~~Valentia Road, Headington £3150~~ LET
~~Harcourt Terrace, Headington £3000~~ LET
~~Cricket Road , Cowley £3150~~ LET
Cramner Road, Rosehill £3000
Old Road, Headington £2900
~~Howard Street, Cowley £2700~~ LET
~~Valentia Road, Headington £3150~~ LET
~~Leopold Street, Cowley £3500~~ LET
~~Bullingdon Road £3150~~ LET

6 BEDS (continued)
~~Cowley Road £2650~~ LET
~~Cricket Road, Cowley £2850~~ LET
Divinity Road, Cowley £3600
~~Bullingdon Road, Cowley £2600~~ LET
~~St Marys Road, Cowley £3600~~ LET
Addison Crescent, East Oxford £3090

7 BEDS
~~East Avenue, Cowley £3650~~ LET
~~Howard Street, Cowley £3150~~ LET
~~Old Road, Headington £4200~~ LET
~~Lime walk, Headington £3675~~ LET
~~Valentia Road, Headington £4200~~ LET
~~Regent Street, Cowley £3160~~ LET



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RE-FITTED SHOWER ROOM
KITCHEN/DINER
REAR GARDEN
DRIVEWAY
NO ONWARD CHAIN

Bure Park £575,000
DOUBLE GARAGE

SIX BEDROOMS
CONSERVATORY
DOUBLE GARAGE
OPEN-PLAN KITCHEN/ DINING AREA

Southwold £435,000
NO ONWARD CHAIN

NO ABOVE CHAIN
4 BEDROOMS
2 BATHROOMS
OFF ROAD PARKING

Bicester £265,000
COOPER SCHOOL CATCHMENT

IMMACULATELY PRESENTED HOME
RE FITTED EN SUITE
TWO BEDROOMS
KITCHEN DINER
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PRIVATE GARDEN

Kingsmere £425,000
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IMPRESSIVE TOWN HOUSE
FOUR BEDROOMS
GARAGE
GARDENS
NO ABOVE CHAIN
OPEN PLAN KITCHEN/ LIVING DINER

Kingsmere £500,000
DETACHED

DETACHED FAMILY HOME
FIVE BEDROOMS
THREE BATHROOMS
DETACHED GARAGE
KINGSMERE LOCATION

Kingsmere £415,000
EXTENDED

EXTENDED DETACHED HOME
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TWO BATHROOMS
BEAUTIFULLY FINISHED THROUGHOUT

Kingsmere £340,000
NO ONWARD CHAIN

NO ONWARD CHAIN
THREE WELL PROPORTIONED BEDROOMS
TWO BATHROOMS
KITCHEN BREAKFAST

Blackthorn £410,000
VILLAGE LOCATION

CHARACTER PROPERTY
3 BEDROOMS
2 BATHROOMS
GARAGE
FIELD VIEWS

Launton £535,000
VILLAGE LOCATION

DETACHED VILLAGE HOME
FOUR BEDROOMS
TWO BATHROOMS
FIELD VIEWS

Upper Heyford £425,000
VILLAGE LOCATION

FULL PART EXCHANGE AVAILABLE
FOUR DOUBLE BEDROOMS
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VILLAGE LOCATION

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GARAGE
VILLAGE LOCATION
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The Ascot is a five bedroom house with an open plan kitchen with family area including integrated appliances and bi-fold doors to the rear garden. Upstairs features dressing rooms and en suites to two bedrooms.

Ambrosden £325,000

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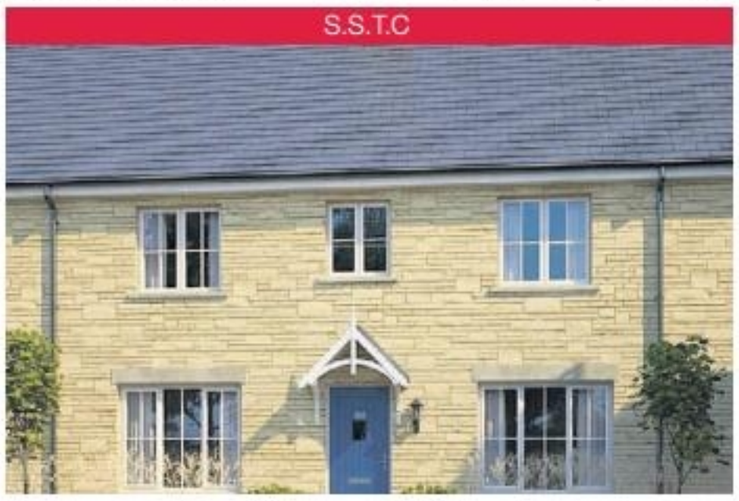

The Launton is spacious and stylish double fronted home with a large living room with french doors opening to the rear garden and a double aspect kitchen diner. A generous master bedroom with built in wardrobes and en suite, two further bedrooms and family bathroom.

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Source: Rightmove.co.uk total daily visits from 25 Dec - 4 Jan 2016, Google Analytics

Ambrosden £420,000

VILLAGE LOCATION

The Ashford is a well appointed family home offering two generous reception rooms, a stunning kitchen breakfast room and the added benefit of a double garage. All within this highly popular village with ideal links to OXFORD & BICESTER.

Kingsmere £479,995

The Ansell is a beautiful 5 bedroom house that offers; choice of fitted kitchen with integrated appliances, ground floor study and cloakroom, separate sitting room, ensuite and fitted wardrobes to master bedroom and double garage.

Kingsmere £446,995

LAST ONE

The Foxcote is a five bedroom home with a fitted kitchen including split level oven and hob with hood and integrated appliances, Sitting room featuring french doors, Dining room and cloakroom. Upstairs benefits from an en suite to two bedrooms.

Heyford Park £284,995

LAST ONE

The Southwold is a three bedroom home including an open plan fitted kitchen, sitting room and dining area featuring french doors, split level oven and hob and integrated appliances. Upstairs benefits from an en suite and built-in wardrobe to bedroom one.

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New Mazda CX-5 towers over crossover rivals

By **Anthony Yates**

I LIKE Mazda because they produce a decent car for the right money without skimping on quality or equipment.

But I also like Mazda because they pretty much give you everything you will ever need. Look at the MX-5 as a perfect example. It's still one of the best two-seater sports cars you can buy for around the same price as a decent family hatchback.

Then there is the CX-3 which for me is still one of my favourite cars of 2016. And then, in front of you now is the Mazda CX-5. which is an even greater machine and 'frankly staggering' – and one of the main reasons why I think it's the best crossover currently on the market.

Power and Efficiency:

Under the bonnet, you will find a 2.2-litre turbo-diesel, four-cylinder in line, DOHC 16 valve engine that has 150ps at 4,500rpm and 380Nm of torque. Add in a 0-62 time of just over nine seconds and a top speed of about 126mph and you will start to see that what I am saying makes perfect sense.

Also, just because it has a big 2.2-litre engine doesn't mean you will need to visit the pumps every few miles either because the CX-5 can easily achieve 55mpg. Plus, it also has a CO^2 rating of 119g/km so that will save you a few extra pounds too.

On the road:

The CX-5 feels planted and handles brilliantly into the corners. The steering is also very accurate and gives you great feedback, while the suspension also manages to soak up all the bumps and potholes with ease.

There was also very little body roll which was yet another sign of the chassis doing an excellent job of keeping everything under control. Of course, most crossovers also need to have the ability to do a mix of road and track – and I am happy to say that the CX-5 manages to pull that off brilliantly too.

Design & Technology:

Some of the standard features you will find come in the form of 17" alloy wheels, Halogen headlights and daytime running lights, front and rear parking sensors, 40/20/40 fold-flat rear seats, dusk-sensing lights, rain-sensing front wipers, cruise control, dual-zone climate control, air-conditioning, 7" colour touch-screen display and Multi-media Commander & Internet app integration for Internet radio, DAB radio with six speakers, navigation system, driver and passenger front side and curtain airbags, dynamic stability control and traction control with system hill hold, power tilt-and-slide sunroof, black leather seat trim with eight-way power adjustable driver's seat with memory, six-way power adjustable front passenger seat and heated front seats.

To sum up:

The CX-5 really is a brilliant car which also happens to be one of the best looking too. Mazda really has done a fantastic job here and the new CX-5 is now well above any of its rivals and the only crossover you need to be thinking about buying.

Price: £27,265 (as tested).

• *Mazda CX-5 – 2.2 150ps 2WD SE-L Lux Nav Diesel*

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2014-64 KIA PICANTO 1.2 AUTO, Greem, 5 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW, AC, Alloys, 23800 Miles £7,495
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Models Shown: Jazz EX 1.3 i-VTEC Manual in Sunset Orange at £16,145 On The Road (OTR). CR-V Black Edition 2.0 i-VTEC 4WD Manual in Crystal Black Pearl at £30,000 On The Road (OTR) including £500 customer saving applied to the original OTR price of £30,500. Civic SR 1.8 i-VTEC Manual in Passion Red Pearl at £22,890, On The Road (OTR) including £1,000 customer saving applied to the original OTR price of £23,890. Terms and Conditions: Ordered from 01 December 2016 to 31 January 2017 and registered by 31 January 2017. Subject to model and colour availability. Offers applicable at participating dealers and are at the promoter's absolute discretion. Not to be used along with any other offers currently available. Honda Deposit contribution: £500 Honda deposit contribution on Civic petrol models purchased through Honda Aspirations. *0% APR representative Honda Aspirations (PCP): Maximum customer deposit 30%. You do not have to pay the Final Payment if you return the car at the end of the agreement and you have paid all other amounts due, the vehicle is in good condition and has been serviced in accordance with the Honda service book and the maximum annual mileage has not been exceeded. Excess mileage charge includes VAT at current rate. Indemnities may be required in certain circumstances. Finance is only available to persons aged 18 or over, subject to status. All figures are correct at time of publication but may be subject to change. Johnsons Cars Limited are credit brokers, not lenders. Credit provided by Honda Finance Europe Plc. Cain Road, Bracknell, Berkshire RG12 1HL. Honda Finance Europe Plc. is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority, Financial Services Register number 312541. Johnsons Cars Ltd (Firm Reference Number: 512460) are an Appointed Representative of ITC Compliance Ltd, and are authorised & regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority (their registration number is 313486) and are permitted to advise on and arrange General Insurance contracts. Registered Name: Johnsons Cars Ltd, Registered Office: Johnsons Cars Ltd, EmpireCourt, Albert Street, Redditch, Worcestershire B97 4DA Registration No. 3716766 VAT Registration No. GB927551606.

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2013	Bmw	3 Series	320D Efficientdynamics Business Touring	Est	A	46K	Blue	£15,287	2013	Audi	A1	Sportback Tdi Sport	Hbk	M	65K	White	£9,989	2013	Vauxhall	Astra	Energy	Hbk	M	17k	Silver	£7,489
2011	Audi	A6	3.0 Tdi Quattro Se	Sa	A	59K	Black	£14,989	2014	Nissan	Juke	Tekna	Hbk	M	41K	White	£9,987	2011	Ford	Mondeo	Zetec	Hbk	M	29k	Silver	£7,489
2013	Volvo	V70	D5 Se Lux	Est	S/A	57k	Bronze	£14,489	2015	Ford	Focus	Zetec	Hbk	M	21k	White	£9,847	2015	Citroen	C3	Puretech Vtr Plus	Hbk	M	2K	Grey	£6,995
2014	Nissan	Qashqai	Acenta Premium Dig-T	Hbk	M	12k	Grey	£14,389	2016	Hyundai	I20	Gdi Premium Se	Hbk	M	10K	White	£9,749	2014	VW	Caddy	C20 Tdi Startline	Van	M	44K	White	£6,790
2015	Mini	Hatch	Cooper D	Hbk	M	28K	Blue	£13,350	2011	Audi	A1	Tfsi Sport	Hbk	M	30K	Blue	£9,448	2013	Peugeot	208	Access Plus	Hbk	M	25k	White	£6,290
2015	Vauxhall	Insignia	Sri Vx-Line Cdti Ecoflex S/S	Est	M	27K	White	£13,289	2011	VW	Eos	Se Tsi	Conv	M	35k	Silver	£9,390	2012	Peugeot	308	Hdi Active	Hbk	M	30K	Black	£6,287
2015	Vauxhall	Insignia	Sri Nav Vx-Line Cdti	Hbk	A	33k	Grey	£12,987	2012	VW	Passat	Bluemotion Tdi	Est	M	53K	Grey	£8,789	2012	Fiat	500	Lounge	Hbk	M	16K	White	£5,995
2011	Audi	Tt	Tdi Quattro Sport	Coupe	M	50k	Black	£12,290	2014	Ford	Fiesta	Titanium	Hbk	M	8k	White	£8,789	2013	Vauxhall	Combo	2000 L1h1 Cdti	Van	M	48K	White	£5,990
2016	Ford	Focus	Zetec Nav	Hbk	M	9k	Blue	£11,789	2013	Vauxhall	Insignia	Exclusiv Nav Cdti Ecoflex S/S	Est	M	54K	Silver	£8,289	2012	Skoda	Fabia	Monte Carlo Tsi	Hbk	M	38K	Red	£5,989
2014	Volvo	S60	D2 Business Edition	Sa	M	38k	Blue	£11,789	2011	VW	Golf	Match Tdi Dsg	Hbk	A	31K	Blue	£8,289	2014	Nissan	Micra	Visia	Hbk	M	17K	White	£5,290
2013	Volvo	V40	D2 Se	Hbk	M	22K	White	£11,789	2011	VW	Golf	Match Tdi	Hbk	M	46k	Silver	£8,275	2011	Alfa	Mito	8V Progression	Hbk	M	49K	Black	£4,390
2013	Mazda	6	D Se	Est	M	31K	Grey	£11,750	2014	Ford	Fiesta	Ecoboost Titanium 100 Bhp	Hbk	M	32k	Grey	£8,147	2013	Fiat	Punto	Easy	Hbk	M	56K	Grey	£4,170
2015	Toyota	Avensis	Valvematic Icon Business Edition	Est	M	27k	White	£11,689	2015	Ford	Fiesta	Zetec	Hbk	M	11K	Yellow	£7,989	2013	VW	Up	Take Up	Hbk	M	47k	Red	£3,990
2012	Audi	A3	Tdi Sport	Hbk	M	36K	Silver	£10,490	2012	Mini	Hatch	Cooper	Hbk	M	32K	Red	£7,987	2009	Saab	9-3	Dt Vector Sport	Sa	M	85K	Black	£3,490
2013	Mazda	6	D Se-L Nav	Sa	M	64K	Red	£10,450	2014	Ford	Fiesta	Ecoboost Titanium 100 Bhp	Hbk	M	32k	Blue	£7,789	2011	Nissan	Pixo	N-Tec	Hbk	M	29k	Grey	£3,290
2014	Skoda	Octavia	Elegance Tdi Cr	Hbk	M	48k	Red	£10,349	2014	Nissan	Note	Acenta Premium	Mpv	M	16K	Red	£7,589									

- We offer the ultimate used car safe & sound warranty for 12, 24, 36 months, all of which includes 24 hr breakdown recovery for the term of the warranty.
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WE ARE ALWAYS LOOKING FOR NEW STOCK. ALL WE REQUIRE IS A REGISTRATION NUMBER, CURRENT MILEAGE & BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF CONDITION, SERVICE HISTORY, KEYS & EXTRA'S. EMAIL BUYER@WHEATLEYCARCENTRE.CO.UK TO MAKE AN APPOINTMENT

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Over 50 more cars at Sturdys Castle Car Centre

2012	Mercedes	Gl-Class	Gl350 CDI Blue efficiency	4X4	A	57k	AluSil	£26,990
2014	BMW	3 Series	335D Xdrive M Sport Pro Media	Sa	A	64k	Blue	£22,990
2012	Audi	A8	Tdi Quattro Se Executive	Sa	A	65k	Black	£18,695
2013	BMW	3 Series	320D Efficientdynamics Bus Touring	Est	A	19k	Blue	£17,990
2012	Mercedes	E-Class	E220 CDI Blueefficiency Sport	Cpe	A	38k	Alu/Sil	£16,490
2011	BMW	5 Series	530D M Sport Touring	Est	A	75k	Blue	£16,450
2015	Kia	Optima	Crdi 3	Sa	A	18k	White	£15,995
2014	Mazda	6	D Sport Nav	Sa	A	27k	Blue	£14,995
2013	Ford	S-Max	Titanium Tdci	Mpv	M	31k	Black	£14,500
2013	Audi	A4	Avant Tdi Se Technik	Est	M	35k	Alu/Sil	£14,450
2013	Mazda	Cx-5	D Sport Nav	Est	M	65k	Blue	£13,995
2013	Kia	Sportage	Crdi 3 Sat Nav	Est	M	42k	Alu/Sil	£13,995
2014	Vauxhall	Cascada	Elite Cdti S/S	Conv	M	35k	Red	£13,450
2014	BMW	1 Series	116D Efficientdynamics Bus Nav	Hbk	M	26k	Black	£13,379
2013	Mazda	6	D Sport	Est	M	51k	Blue	£12,995
2012	BMW	3 Series	320D Efficientdynamics	Sa	M	73k	Grey	£12,690
2014	Audi	A1	Tdi Sport	Hbk	M	16k	Blue	£12,450
2013	Audi	A3	Tdi Se	Hbk	M	18k	White	£12,450
2014	VW	Golf	Match Tdi Bluemotion Technology	Hbk	M	20k	Sil	£12,450
2013	Lexus	Ct	200H Luxury	Hbk	A	40k	Alu/Sil	£12,395
2014	Audi	A1	Sportback Tfsi Sport	Hbk	M	27k	Blue	£12,150
2013	Ford	C-Max	Titanium X	Mpv	M	27k	Blue	£11,995
2013	VW	Golf	S Tsi	Conv	M	25k	Alu/Sil	£11,995
2012	VW	Tiguan	Se Tdi Bluemotion Technology 4M	4X4	M	57k	Blue	£11,995
2012	Audi	A3	Tdi	Conv	M	37k	Black	£11,895
2013	Skoda	Octavia	Elegance Tdi Cr Dsg	Est	A	43k	Black	£11,795
2013	BMW	1 Series	116D Se	Hbk	M	20k	Black	£11,695
2011	Audi	A1	Tfsi S Line	Hbk	M	31k	White	£11,650
2009	Audi	Tt	Tdi Quattro	Cpe	M	50k	Red	£11,450
2011	VW	Scirocco	Gt Tdi 170	Cpe	M	44k	Blue	£11,350
2012	VW	Passat	Se Tdi Bluemotion Technology	Est	M	33k	Grey	£11,295
2012	Ford	Mondeo	Titanium X Tdci	Est	M	32k	Blue	£11,250
2013	Ford	Mondeo	Titanium X Business Edition Tdci	Hbk	M	46k	Sil	£11,250
2013	VW	Golf	Se Tdi Bluemotion Technology	Hbk	M	27k	White	£11,250
2013	Volvo	V40	D2 R-Design	Hbk	M	57k	Black	£10,995
2015	Hyundai	I30	Crdi Se Blue Drive	Est	M	9k	Sil	£10,995
2014	Vauxhall	Mokka	Exclusiv S/S	Hbk	M	19k	Blue	£10,995
2012	Skoda	Yeti	Elegance Tsi	Hbk	M	10k	Black	£10,990
2013	Toyota	Auris	Excel Vvt-I	Hbk	A	34k	White	£10,990
2013	Honda	Civic	I-Dtec Ex	Hbk	M	24k	Blue	£10,990
2015	Ford	Focus	Zetec	Hbk	M	10k	Alu/Sil	£10,990
2011	Kia	Sportage	Crdi 2	Est	M	40k	Brown	£10,890
2012	Ford	S-Max	Zetec Tdci S/S	Mpv	M	48k	Alu/Sil	£10,850
2012	VW	Passat	Sport Tdi Bluemotion Technology Dsg	Est	A	82k	Black	£10,650
2012	VW	Cc	Tdi Bluemotion Technology	Cpe	M	59k	Blue	£10,650
2014	Mini	Hatch	Cooper Chilli	Hbk	M	16k	Red	£10,550
2012	Mini	ClubM	Cooper Sd	Est	M	67k	Red	£10,450
2012	Mini	CountryM	Cooper	Hbk	M	27k	Red	£10,450
2014	VW	Golf	S Tsi Bluemotion Technology	Hbk	M	31k	Blue	£10,350
2009	Audi	Tt	Tdi Quattro	Conv	M	66k	Grey	£10,200
2012	Audi	A3	Tdi Sport	Hbk	M	40k	Blue	£10,150
2007	BMW	6 Series	630I Sport	Cpe	A	77k	Blue	£9,995
2010	BMW	1 Series	118D M Sport	Conv	M	42k	Blue	£9,995
2011	Audi	A3	Tdi Sport	Conv	M	61k	Blue	£9,990
2014	Ford	Focus	Zetec	Hbk	M	20k	Alu/Sil	£9,795
2013	Kia	Carens	2 Ecodynamics Crdi	Mpv	M	53k	Alu/Sil	£9,650
2012	BMW	1 Series	120D Se	Hbk	M	76k	White	£9,650
2011	Nissan	Qashqai	N-Tec Dci	Hbk	M	44k	Grey	£9,560
2014	Seat	Leon	Tsi Se Technology	Hbk	M	35k	White	£9,450
2015	Hyundai	I30	Se Blue Drive	Hbk	M	17k	White	£9,360
2013	Hyundai	I30	Crdi Style Nav Blue Drive	Est	M	43k	Blue	£9,200
2012	Renault	Scenic	Grand Dynamique TT Energy Dci	Mpv	M	40k	Bronze	£8,995
2015	Vauxhall	Astra	Sri	Hbk	M	17k	Black	£8,995
2013	VW	Golf	S Tdi Bluemotion Technology	Hbk	M	38k	Black	£8,950
2013	Ford	Focus	Titanium X Tdci	Est	M	60k	White	£8,750
2013	Ford	Focus	Zetec EConvetic Tdci	Est	M	38k	Blue	£8,650
2013	Toyota	Auris	Sport Valvematic	Hbk	M	34k	Black	£8,575
2012	Nissan	Juke	Acenta	Hbk	M	32k	White	£8,450
2012	VW	Passat	Se Tdi Bluemotion Technology	Est	M	78k	Red	£8,450
2012	Audi	A3	Tdi Sport	Hbk	M	71k	Black	£8,450
2014	Vauxhall	Astra	Excite	Hbk	M	11k	Black	£8,350
2015	Nissan	Note	Acenta Premium	Mpv	M	19k	White	£8,260
2013	Mini	Hatch	One	Hbk	M	14k	Blue	£8,250
2012	VW	Golf	Gt Tdi Bluemotion Technology	Hbk	M	86k	Grey	£8,250
2015	Vauxhall	Corsa	Se Ecoflex	Hbk	M	14k	Alu/Sil	£8,200
2011	VW	Golf	Match Tdi Bluemotion Technology	Hbk	A	62k	Red	£7,995
2012	Citroen	Ds4	Thp Dsport	Hbk	M	33k	White	£7,995
2012	Hyundai	I40	Crdi Style Blue Drive	Sa	M	58k	Red	£7,995
2013	VW	Golf	Se Tdi Bluemotion Technology	Hbk	M	105k	Blue	£7,995
2014	Honda	Jazz	I-Vtec Es Plus	Hbk	M	31k	Grey	£7,990
2013	Ford	Focus	Zetec + Appearance Pack	Hbk	M	34k	Alu/Sil	£7,990
2010	VW	Golf	Se Tsi	Hbk	M	31k	Alu/Sil	£7,990
2011	Skoda	Superb	Elegance Tsi	Est	M	70k	Black	£7,990
2014	Nissan	Note	Dci Acenta	Mpv	M	29k	Black	£7,925
2014	Nissan	Note	Acenta	Mpv	M	27k	Red	£7,790
2014	Ford	Fiesta	Zetec	Hbk	M	36k	Blue	£7,790
2012	Vauxhall	Insignia	Sri Cdti	Hbk	M	52k	Black	£7,750
2014	Vauxhall	Astra	Excite	Hbk	M	21k	Red	£7,740
2011	Mini	Hatch	One Pimlico	Hbk	M	28k	Blue	£7,650
2012	Peugeot	208	Ice Velvet	Hbk	M	20k	White	£7,650
2010	VW	Golf	Match Tdi	Hbk	M	47k	Blue	£7,650
2011	Ford	C-Max	Zetec Tdci	Mpv	M	46k	Alu/Sil	£7,490
2014	Kia	Picanto	4 Isg	Hbk	M	10k	Black	£7,450
2013	Hyundai	Ix20	Active	Mpv	M	28k	Blue	£7,240
2013	Renault	Megane	Dynamique Tomtom Dci Edc	Est	A	60k	Black	£6,995
2012	Vauxhall	Meriva	Se	Mpv	M	15k	Blue	£6,995
2013	Vauxhall	Astra	Exclusiv Cdti Ecoflex S/S	Est	M	32k	Blue	£6,995
2014	Skoda	Fabia	Elegance Tsi	Hbk	M	38k	Alu/Sil	£6,875
2010	Peugeot	308	Cc Sport Hdi	Conv	M	28k	Sil	£6,875
2014	Peugeot	208	Active	Hbk	M	19k	Alu/Sil	£6,850
2010	VW	Golf	Sportline Tdi Bluemotion	Hbk	M	40k	Blue	£10,150
2012	Citroen	C3	E-Hdi Exclusive Airdream	Cpe	A	77k	Blue	£9,995
2013	Skoda	Roomster	Se Tsi	Conv	M	42k	Blue	£9,995
2008	Nissan	Qashqai	Tekna	Conv	M	61k	Blue	£9,990
2014	Ford	Fiesta	Zetec	Hbk	M	20k	Alu/Sil	£9,795
2011	Citroen	C3	Picasso Exclusive Hdi	Mpv	M	53k	Alu/Sil	£9,650
2013	Nissan	Note	N-Tec Plus Dci	Mpv	M	49k	Black	£6,460
2010	Skoda	Octavia	Elegance Tdi Cr	Hbk	M	73k	Grey	£6,450
2010	VW	Polo	Se	Hbk	M	36k	Alu/Sil	£6,450
2013	Ford	Fiesta	Titanium EConvetic Tdci	Hbk	M	64k	Alu/Sil	£6,450
2014	Fiat	Punto	Easy	Hbk	M	12k	Blue	£6,350
2011	Skoda	Fabia	Scout Tdi Cr	Est	M	62k	Alu/Sil	£6,350
2009	Mini	Hatch	Cooper D	Hbk	M	44k	Alu/Sil	£6,250
2013	VW	Up	High Up	Hbk	M	39k	Blue	£6,250
2010	Audi	A3	Tdi Sport	Hbk	M	119k	Black	£6,250
2013	Vauxhall	Corsa	Energy Ac Cdti Ecoflex	Hbk	M	33k	White	£6,095
2013	Vauxhall	Corsa	Limited Edition	Hbk	M	37k	Yellow	£5,995
2014	Vauxhall	Corsa	Sxi Ac	Hbk	M	32k	Black	£5,995
2007	BMW	1 Series	120D Se	Hbk	M	64k	Blue	£5,995
2012	Fiat	500	Lounge	Hbk	M	21k	White	£5,995
2010	Ford	Fiesta	Zetec 16V	Hbk	M	36k	Red	£5,995
2012	Ford	Focus	Zetec Tdci	Est	M	96k	Grey	£5,990
2012	Ford	Mondeo	Edge Tdci	Est	M	120k	Alu/Sil	£5,950
2012	VW	Up	High Up	Hbk	M	37k	White	£5,850
2010	Toyota	Auris	Sr Valvematic	Hbk	M	34k	Alu/Sil	£5,850
2013	Vauxhall	Corsa	Exclusiv Ac	Hbk	M	31k	Sil	£5,650
2014	Seat	Mii	Toca	Hbk	M	11k	Alu/Sil	£5,640
2013	Skoda	Citigo	Elegance Greentech	Hbk	M	31k	Sil	£5,590
2011	Ford	Fiesta	Zetec 16V	Hbk	M	53k	Sil	£5,450
2010	Ford	Fiesta	Titanium	Hbk	M	52k	Black	£5,450
2013	VW	Up	Move Up Bluemotion Technology	Hbk	M	23k	Black	£5,295
2013	Vauxhall	Corsa	Energy Ac	Hbk	M	59k	Black	£5,250
2006	Toyota	Rav-4	Xt4 Vvt-I	4X4	M	61k	Blue	£5,250
2012	Renault	Clio	Dynamique Tomtom 16V	Hbk	M	30k	Red	£5,250
2011	Mazda	2	Tamura	Hbk	M	52k	Maroon	£5,160
2010	Ford	Fiesta	Edge	Hbk	M	41k	Green	£4,995
2013	Fiat	500	Colour Therapy	Hbk	M	59k	Beige	£4,995
2011	Renault	Megane	Dynamique Tomtom Dci Fap	Hbk	M	63k	Beige	£4,950
2012	Vauxhall	Corsa	Active Ac Cdti Ecoflex	Hbk	M	52k	Red	£4,950
2012	Renault	Clio	Expression Plus Dci	Hbk	M	49k	Alu/Sil	£4,750
2013	Fiat	Panda	Easy	Hbk	M	36k	Red	£4,525
2010	Hyundai	I20	Comfort Crdi	Hbk	M	5k	Blue	£4,450
2011	Renault	Megane	Dynamique Tomtom Vvt	Cpe	M	61k	Alu/Sil	£4,450
2011	Vauxhall	Corsa	Exclusiv A/C	Hbk	M	68k	Grey	£4,295
2011	Renault	Clio	Dynamique Tomtom 16V	Hbk	M	56k	Black	£4,250
2007	Toyota	Yaris	Sr	Hbk	M	32k	Black	£4,250
2013	Chevrolet	Spark	Ltz	Hbk	M	47k	Alu/Sil	£4,200
2011	Vauxhall	Agila	S Ac	Hbk	M	35k	Blue	£3,995
2008	Vw	Polo	Match	Hbk	M	63k	Grey	£3,995
2008	Vauxhall	Meriva	Life 16V Twinport	Mpv	Man	55k	Black	£2,890

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- **Servicing & repairs from just £65**
- **Mot testing for just £54.85 (We also offer a while you wait service)**
- **Repairs – general all makes, repairs carried out**
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ONLY £15 FOR 4 WEEKS

Vauxhall Insignia 2.0 CDTi Exclusive Diesel

Year: 2012
Miles: 79,000
MOT: July 2017
Colour: Met Black
Price: £4,995 ono

5dr Hatchback, 3 months Warranty, manual, 1 owner, SH, PAS, ABS, Airbags, Trip computer, CD Player, Remote Alarmed Central locking with 2 keys. Electric front windows, seats & mirrors. Tel 01296 698535 or 07788 211644 T 31.12.16

Vauxhall Insignia 2.0 CDTi Exclusive Diesel

Year: 2011
Miles: 135,000
MOT: May 2017
Colour: Silver
Price: £3,795ono

5dr Hatchback, 3 months Warranty, manual, 1 owner, FSH, PAS, ABS, Airbags, Trip computer, CD Player, Remote Alarmed Central locking with 2 keys. Electric front windows, seats & mirrors. Cam-belt changes Jan 2015. New Brakes & back tyres Jan 2016. New front tyres Nov 2016. 4 new glow plugs. Tel 01296 698535 or 07788 211644 T 31.12.16

Honda Civic SE I-VTEC 1799cc

Year: 2007
Miles: 68,800
MOT: 12 months
Colour: Black
Price: £3,250 ono

Owned from new, 57 plate, petrol 6-speed manual, leather interior, air con, heated seats, alloy wheels, power button, 4 electric windows, electric mirrors, ABS, PAS, remote central locking with 2 keys, factory fitted alarm, CD player, service history. Reliable car in lovely condition. Priced to sell. Tel: 07799 885009. SB35943 / 03.01.17

Renault Clio Van

Year: 2005
Miles: 144,243
MOT: Nov 2017
Colour: Silver
Price: £1,000

Full service history, new battery, cam-belt changed in 2015, clean and tidy genuine sale. Tel. 01844 279674 SB35994 / 03.01.17

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Ford Street KA Winter Edition Convertible

Year: 2006
Miles: 23,000
MOT: June 2017
Colour: Ice Blue
Price: £1,875

1 previous Owner, full main dealer history, removable hardtop, heated leather seats, Air conditioning, heated front screen, electric Windows, Central Locking, Thatcham Alarm. Out-standing all round condition. Priced To Sell. Tel. 07908 555 467 SB36095 / 10.01.17

Mazda MX-5 1.8

Year: 2004
Miles: 66,300
Colour: Silver
MOT: August 2017
Price: £2,495 ono

One lady owner with FSH (12 stamps in the service book) lots of receipts. Silver with black hood. PAS, EW, EM, Airbags, original R/C player, 5 spd. Recent work includes two new tyres, full vehicle inspection and a fortron engine flush. Cam-belt changed in Aug 2015. Body and hood in good condition. Tonneau cover and full outdoor MX 5 cover included. Two keys, V5 present. Tel. 01296 698535 or 07788 211644 (T) 31.12.16

Jaguar S Type 2.7 V6 SE Turbo Diesel (Automatic)

Year: Dec 2006
Miles: 80,000
MOT: August 2017
Colour: Autumn Gold
Price: £3,995 ono

One family owned car from new with 80,000 miles and full-service history all documented. New engine fitted by Jaguar on 32,615 all documented. MOT until 22.08.2017. Full service carried out in August 2016 with two new rear shock absorbers fitted. Winter Gold metallic body with champagne leather interior finished with wood and mocha trim. Automatic gearbox with sports mode, Sat Nav, Air Con, Alloys, 4 electric windows, electric mirrors, ABS, PAS, Remote Central locking with two keys, Alarmed, CD Player and six stack (radio code supplied), Electric front seats, colour coded bumpers front & rear fog lights, a well-maintained car in lovely condition inside and out. Call 01296 698535 or 07788 211644 private sale. 31.12.16

THE LAW HAS CHANGED ... DO YOU HAVE THE CORRECT GAS?

We can now offer R1234YF car air-con recharge and service

Wheatley CAR CENTRE

Is your car 2013 or newer? If so, you will need the correct gas.

As of the 7th September 2016 we are able to offer R1234yf refrigerant re-gassing, or a car air-con recharge as sometimes known at our Wheatley Car Centre Branch.

This gas is compulsory for new cars from 2013 all be it has been around since 2010, although some manufacturers are still refusing to use this, notably Mercedes who are not happy with the flammable nature of the gas, which in turn means not many companies offer the re-gassing service for cars using r1234yf. But due to the amount of cars we sell we have needed to be able have this service onsite so we can now offer this service to our customers.

A common question is why the old, r134a gas found in most cars today, is being replaced?

It's driven by environmental concerns as the new gas is more environmentally friendly.

So, for ALL your re-gas and service needs please contact our Wheatley Car Centre Service Department, tel. 01865 874046 opt 2 • www.wheatleycarcentre.co.uk

"I'd suggest Thame Cars to a friend because they are professional and friendly all the way through."
Mr Felgate, October 2016
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of Thame Service Station customers would recommend them to a friend
feefo
Service Rating: 99%
169 reviews

All vehicles come with: • 100 point quality check • Serviced • Fully valeted • Two keys

Small Cars

15	Ford Fiesta 1.0 EcoBoost (E6) Zetec 5dr (start/stop) Grey Petrol 10,631	£9,269
16	Ford Fiesta 1.0 EcoBoost T Zetec 3dr (start/stop) Black Petrol 14,407	£9,499
16	Ford Fiesta 1.0 EcoBoost T Zetec 5dr (start/stop) Blue Petrol 12,419	£10,199
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16	Vauxhall Corsa 1.4 i ecoFLEX SE 5dr Blue Petrol 10,660	£9,799
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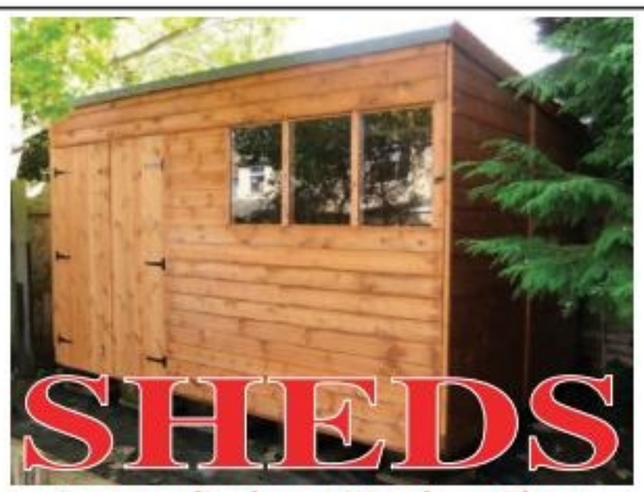

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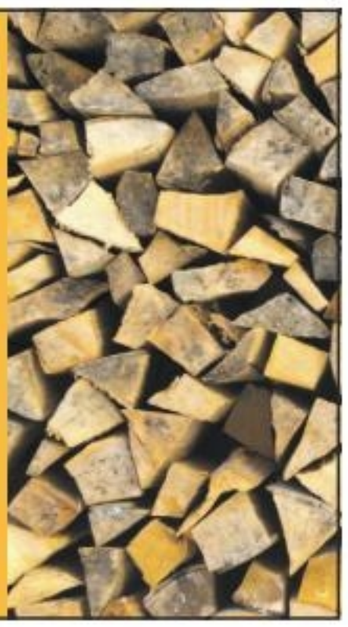

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Bottas emerges as possible to replace Rosberg at Mercedes

By Adam Flinn

VALTTERI Bottas has emerged as one of the leading candidates to replace 2016 world champion Nico Rosberg at Mercedes for next year.

The Williams driver is one of a number of options being considered by Brackley-based Mercedes following the shock departure of its driver of seven years.

Rosberg stunned the world of Formula One when he announced his retirement last Friday, less than a week after securing this year's world title at the Abu Dhabi Grand Prix.

It means the constructors' champions are desperately seeking a team-mate for past champion Lewis Hamilton, with pre-season testing set to begin in February.

Bottas is thought to be one of the most likely candidates to fill the seat, having had four years of experience at Williams, three of those with the Mercedes engine.

The Finn is contracted to the Grove-based squad for 2017, but his management team has links to Mercedes chief Toto Wolff, and it is thought a deal could be struck over Williams' engine supply. Also in the running is Manor driver Pascal Wehrlein, who is also one of Mercedes' junior drivers.

He showed flashes of speed in his first season in 2016, scoring Manor's only point at the Austrian Grand Prix in July.

However, his relative inexperience might prove to be a factor, likewise with fellow 2016 Manor racer and Mercedes junior driver, Esteban Ocon.

The alternative for Mercedes could be to try and tempt one of the big-name drivers, such as Fernando Alonso or Sebastian Vettel, out of their current contracts.

Speaking to Gazetta dello Sport, Wolff said: "We have three roads that we can follow.

"The first is to think about having a number one and a number two, the second school of thought is to make use of our junior drivers, and then the third path is to go on the market for a top driver.

"The third path I mentioned is the one I like least."

Mercedes have not yet said when they expect to make a decision.

• *Valtteri Bottas could move from Williams to Mercedes for 2017 (Picture courtesy of Williams Martini Racing)*

Hedman's wait for Lakeside big title continues

OXFORDSHIRE darts ace Deta Hedman's wait for a major title on the Lakeside stage goes on after she lost in the final of the World Masters on Sunday.

The 57-year-old was beaten 5-2 by former Wantage resident Trina Gulliver in a rematch of the World Championship finals held at the same venue in January.

Missed doubles proved to be the difference in the match, with two-time Masters champion Hedman performing slightly better in scoring than Gulliver.

In two of the first three legs, Hedman had darts to win the game, but Gulliver made no mistakes and was quickly 3-0 ahead in the first-to-five match.

Hedman pulled one back in the fourth after checking out 16, but her only 180 of the match in the fifth was not enough to prevent Gulliver from going within one of victory.

But despite winning leg six, Hedman was powerless to prevent Gulliver taking the title with a 72 outshot – the biggest of the match.

It means that Hedman has now been beaten in three World Championship finals, one World Trophy final and one Masters final on the Lakeside stage in Surrey in the last five years.

Pepperell misses cut as new tour starts in South Africa

EDDIE Pepperell made a disastrous start to the 2017 European Tour as he missed the cut at the Alfred Dunhill Championship in South Africa last week.

The Frilford Heath Club member fired successive rounds of +2 to leave him +4 overall at the season's opener, which was won on home soil by South African Brandon Stone.

The Abingdon golfer was in action just two weeks after saving his European Tour card at Qualifying School in Spain.

He made an encouraging start on the Leopard Creek County Club course when he birdied the first and eighth holes. But the 25-year-old double bogeyed holes 10 and 11 before birdieing the 14th to finish round one on +2.

The same holes once again proved problematic for Pepperell in round two, this time bogeying the par fours.

Despite birdies on four, 15 and 17, another double bogey – this time on hole seven – meant he carded another +2 and was cut too far adrift of the chasing pack.

After missing seven cuts in his eight tournaments prior to Q School, Pepperell will be hoping 2017 will bring an end to his losing form. He will not be playing in the UBS Hong Kong Open this week.

Stars lose more ground on the league leaders

OXFORD City Stars have fallen eight points behind the NIHL Division 1 South leaders Chelmsford Chieftains after losing at the Essex club for the second time in as many weeks on Sunday.

The previous week Chieftains took maximum points after an emphatic 8-3 victory.

And this week Oxford once again slipped to defeat, but the determined Stars pushed the Chieftains all the way in an enthralling game that ended with a narrow 2-1 scoreline in favour of the defending league champions.

Oxford began the weekend clinging on to second place – by the end of it they had slipped to fourth.

From face-off it was end-to-end action with both sides forcing the netminders into some solid stops. But Oxford failed to break their hosts down and slipped to their fourth successive defeat.

The Stars travel to second place Invicta Dynamos, who have two games in hand on Oxford, on Sunday.

Nominees revealed for 2016 Oxfordshire Sports Awards

THE nominations for the 11th annual Oxfordshire Sports Awards have been announced ahead of January's award ceremony.

After receiving a record number of nominations across 14 categories, Oxfordshire Sport and Physical Activity has announced the 42 nominees ahead of the awards ceremony at Oxford United's Kassam Stadium on Friday, January 27.

The Awards incorporate nominations from across Oxfordshire, raising the profile of sport and physical activity and creating a unified celebration of sporting excellence

Oxfordshire Sport and Physical Activity said: "Oxfordshire has a huge amount of sporting talent and Oxfordshire Sport and Physical Activity is honoured to be able to see these athletes, coaches, volunteers and unsung heroes receive the recognition they deserve."

Tickets are now on sale and are priced between £26.74 and £37.24. Tickets can be bought at http://tinyurl.com/zgq9ekx

Sportsman of the year
- Andrew Triggs Hodge
- Tim Stephens
- Kyron Anthony

Sportswoman of the year
- Linsey Smith
- Kate Williamson
- Frances Houghton

Unsung Hero
- Deborah Evelyn
- Peter Travis
- Robin Aston

Young Volunteer
- Rosalind Tsang
- Robbie Scragg
- Lois MacDonald

Active Workplace Award
- Oxford Brookes University
- Oxfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group
- Health Education England – Thames Valley

Sports Team of the year
- Oxford United Football Club
- Oxford Saints American Football
- Harlequin Bowmen Compound Clout Team

Sporting Primary School of the year
- Whitchurch Primary School
- Larkrise Primary School
- Wantage CofE Primary School

Sporting Secondary School of the year
- King Alfred's Academy
- Blessed George Napier Catholic School
- The Cherwell School

Disability Sports Award
- Witney Wolves Rugby SEN
- Oxfordshire Bears Adaptive Cricket Club
- Big, Bold and Balance

Junior Sports Person of the year
- Miriam Pritchard
- Benjamin Goodall
- David Murphy

Club of the year: sponsored by Fusion Leisure
- Gosford All Blacks RFC
- Abingdon Gymnastics Club
- Oxford City Athletics Club

Coach of the year
- Kelly Collins
- Marcia Marriott
- Tamsin Sear-Watkins

Have your say online

Junior Team of the year
- Henley Rowing Club Junior Women's Under 16
- Gosford Hill School Under 15s football
- Oxfordshire Cricket Under 17s

Sports Development Project of the year
- High Sheriff Challenge Oxford
- Parkrun
- Sportivate Street Hockey Big, Bold and Balance

Winning run derailed by lowly Yate Town

A double from Ben Whitehead, pictured in 2014-15, could not prevent Didcot Town's winning run come to an end (Picture by Roger Neal)

DIDCOT Town let slip a half time lead to lose 3-2 at Yate Town to put an end to their five match winning league run on Saturday.

The Railwaymen started sluggishly but looked in command when they overturned an early deficit to lead 2-1, but a superb second half comeback secured all three points for Yate.

The home side rushed to an early lead when Jack Ball pounced on a defensive lapse to slide the ball into an empty net.

Not long after, Didcot capitalised on a Yate mistake of their own as Ben Whitehead tackled Bluebells' keeper Harvey Rivers to slot the ball into an empty net.

And Didcot took the lead before half time when an excellently weighted ball over the top by Sam Elkins found Whitehead, who was brought down in the area.

Diddy's top scorer took responsibility from the spot and converted into the bottom right corner from 12-yards.

Behind at the break, Yate made tactical changes at the interval and it did not take long to level the scores.

Kyle Thomas raced clear beyond the languishing Didcot defence to crash the ball beyond Leigh Bedwell to draw Yate level.

Didcot were having more possession but it was the hosts who were looking more dangerous and it did not come as too much of a surprise when Town fell behind 20 minutes from time.

From a corner, an unmarked Ball nodded home for his brace and Man of Match award.

Thomas could have grabbed a brace of his own, but his chip rebounded off the foot of the post.

His miss nearly proved costly as Didcot pressed in search of an equaliser.

By the end, the Bluebells were hanging on and were grateful for Rivers, who pulled off a superb point blank save to deny James Organ a headed equaliser in injury time.

North Leigh throw away 3-0 lead to draw with table-toppers Hereford in fog-hit game

NORTH Leigh squandered a 3-0 half time lead to draw 3-3 at home with runaway Evo-Stik Southern League Division 1 South & West leaders Hereford.

Both teams were reduced to 10 men as Leigh's Stuart Hole and Hereford's Pablo Haysham, a former Didcot Town striker, received their marching orders in the second half.

A Bradley Gray strike sandwiched by a James Murphy brace rewarded a superb first half performance from the Millers to put John Brough's side well in control.

But undefeated Hereford hit back after the break when all had appeared lost at half time.

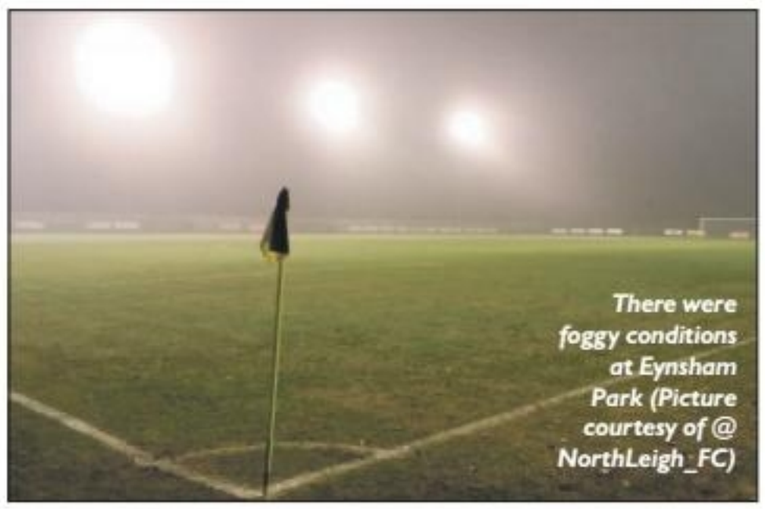
Midfielder Tristan Plummer pulled a goal back for the visitors before both sides were reduced to 10 men when Haysham and Hole saw red.

Mike Symons made it 3-2, before another former Didcot striker, John Mills, scored to complete the remarkable comeback.

The Millers, who will see the draw as two points lost, climbed to seventh in the table, just four points off the play offs.

The west Oxfordshire side travel to South Park in FA Trophy action on Saturday.

Hereford now sit 10 points clear of Tiverton Town at the top of the table and return to Oxfordshire again on Saturday as they visit relegation threatened Wantage.



There were foggy conditions at Eynsham Park (Picture courtesy of @NorthLeigh_FC)

The Bulls remain unbeaten away from home in 28 matches and Hereford boss Peter Beadle said he was "astounded" by the character his side showed to rescue a point.

Supersub Coyle hits four-timer in Kidlington win

KIDLINGTON striker Lewis Coyle was the star of the show as he scored a stunning four goals in a 4-2 win in Kiddy's first visit to Northwood in over 35 years.

Coyle, who came on for the injured Jack Dunmall in the 11th minute, put in a man of the match performance to bring the points back to Kidlington, who twice had to come from behind.

The Wood took the lead in the 23rd minute of the Central Division match through Myles Stephenson, who powered home from 12 yards, before Coyle equalised for the Greens from even further out less than 10 minutes later.

The London side restored their lead through Louis Stead after a fumble by Kidlington keeper Sam Warrell just after the hour mark.

But Kiddy were back on level terms on 67 minutes when Coyle scored with a spectacular dipping free-kick from 25 yards.

When Coyle was brought down unceremoniously in the penalty box, Kidlington were given the chance to take the lead for the first time from the spot.

Coyle took a short run up and blasted the ball home to complete his hat-trick in the 74th minute.

And the points were secured for Julian McCalmon's side when Coyle scored his fourth – and final – goal in the 86th minute as he fired a screamer of a shot that bent away from Montel Joseph's despairing dive and into the bottom corner of the goal.

The win moves Kiddy up to 16th. They host ninth place Egham Town on Saturday.

• Lewis Coyle was the star of the show netting four goals in Saturday's game against Northwood

Teenager Roberts holds nerve to slot home winner

Penalties give U's victory

By George Welch

OXFORD United had to rely on penalties to beat fellow League One side Southend United and secure their passage into the 3rd round of the Checkatrade Trophy after a 1-1 draw in normal time on Tuesday.

Chris Maguire looked to have won it for the U's when he scored nine minutes from time with a spectacular 30-yard free kick.

But an Anthony Wordsworth equaliser five minutes later forced United into their third penalty shoot-out of the competition.

However, it proved third time lucky for the U's as they had previously lost on penalties in the group stage against Swindon Town and Chelsea.

While Oxford's 34-penalty shoot-out marathon against Chelsea's development side last month became an English record, teenager Tyler Roberts held his nerve against Southend to send the Yellows through with just their fifth penalty.

Maguire, Kane Hemmings, Phil Edwards and Roberts converted from 12 yards to beat the Shrimpers 4-3. Winger Marvin Johnson had seen his effort saved by Mark Oxley in the Southend goal. But thankfully for Michael Appleton's side, although Jason Demetriou, Wordsworth and Ryan Leonard scored from the spot for Southend, Simon Cox and Stephen McLaughlin made costly mistakes from 12-yards to give Oxford the win.

Simon Eastwood saved from Cox before McLaughlin blazed over, meaning the responsibility to send United through to the next round fell on the shoulders of Roberts.

The 17-year-old, who had scored for West Brom's under-23s from the spot earlier this season, held his nerve to send the U's one step closer to returning to Wembley.

Maguire's stunning 30-yard free kick had given Oxford a worthy lead, who had been the better of the two teams after half time.

But Wordsworth, who scored the winner against United from the spot in a 2-1 win in September, bundled in from close range to level the scores.

With 16 teams now remaining, the 3rd round will be the first one that is not drawn on a regional basis.

The draw for the 3rd round of the Checkatrade Trophy takes place today.

• *Substitute Tyler Roberts, right, scored the decisive penalty for the U's (Picture by Steve Daniels)*

White strikes late to claim Banbury win

BANBURY United came back from a goal down to clinch a win deep in stoppage time against Stratford Town to put an end to a three-match losing run on Saturday.

The Puritans collected their first three points since the start of November thanks to the late Callum White winner to earn the home side a 2-1 win and keep them in play-off contention.

White's winner came after a Stratford own goal by Guy Clark 11 minutes from time cancelled out Ben Stephens' goal on the hour mark for Town.

And just two minutes after equalising, a Zac McEachran cross from the right found Ricky Johnson at the far post but Niall Cooper in the Stratford goal blocked the United striker's point-blank effort.

It looked though as United would have to be content with a point. But three minutes into stoppage time, a deep cross from the right by White sailed over Cooper's head in the Town goal and into the far corner of the net.

Banbury host strugglers Hayes & Yeading United on Saturday, who have won just once in their last seven matches.

City's winning run sunk by The Fleet

• *James Roberts scored City's only goal of the game (Picture by Michael Allen)*

OXFORD City's resurgent league campaign was stopped in its tracks by promotion-hunting Ebbsfleet United on Saturday.

Despite taking an early lead through James Roberts, Ebbsfleet fought back with three goals to deny the Hoops a fourth win in a row.

Charlie Sheringham, the son of England and Manchester United legend Teddy, got the Fleet back on level terms just before half time before Sean Shields and Bradley Bubb scored in the last 20 minutes to claim the three points.

City were left ruining a number of missed chances and defeat leaves Justin Merritt's side 17th in the National League South, six points clear of the drop-zone, while Ebbsfleet propelled themselves into 3rd.

The Hoops continued their fine form when Roberts picked the pocket of a defender before unleashing a curling effort into the top corner.

Buoyed by the early breakthrough, City continued to push forwards with both fullbacks given licence to get forward and support the attacking play.

But, as the game wore on, Ebbsfleet worked their way into the game and were level six minutes before half-time. The ball found the feet of Sheringham with his back to goal in the centre of the box before he turned and unleashed a vicious shot into the bottom left-hand corner of Ty Belford's goal.

Ebbsfleet secured the points with two goals in four minutes to record their first win in three matches.

Shields fired the Fleet into the lead on 72 minutes when he slid the ball through Belford's legs before Bubb finished at the near post when left unmarked from a corner.

City host Hungerford Town, another promotion-chasing side, on Saturday.

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Oxford hope for better show in Macclesfield FA Cup replay

By George Welch

• *Oxford beat seventh-tier Merstham in the 1st round (Picture by Steve Daniels)*

OXFORD United could face higher opposition for the first time in this season's FA Cup after the winners of their replay with National League Macclesfield Town were handed a 3rd round tie at Championship club Rotherham.

Should United overcome Macclesfield in their replay at the Kassam on Tuesday night, Michael Appleton's side would fancy their chances against Rotherham. Friday's encounter in the north west ended in a goalless draw.

It might not be the glamour draw that Appleton would have wanted to add incentive to the 2nd round replay but the Yorkshire club, who are on to their third manager of the campaign already, have one win all season, are 11 points adrift at the bottom of the table and winless in 15 matches.

Oxford were poor throughout in their FA Cup 2nd round tie against non-league Macclesfield, who play two levels below the League One side, in front of the TV cameras and were lucky to escape with a draw.

In a night of very few positives, the only real cause for optimism was that the Yellows were still in the hat for the 3rd round draw on Monday.

The Silkmen, who sit seven points off the play-offs in the National League after a 3-0 win at Wrexham on Tuesday, started the brightest and maintained a high intensity for 90 minutes, defying their inferior position in the English football pyramid.

The tone of the match was set early on as a speculative overhead kick from defender John McCombe and a dangerous Danny Rowe header made it a nervy opening 10 minutes for the U's.

It was the non-league side that asked the more testing questions on a chilly evening, with Oxford's Simon Eastwood the far busier goalkeeper.

Oxford spent large parts of the match on the back foot and, as their defensive unit continued to look uncomfortable, Macclesfield nearly took the lead on 24 minutes when Joe Skarz dithered on the edge of the area.

The left back's poor back pass nearly fell to Chris Holroyd but Chey Dunkley, who had already been booked, timed his tackle to perfection to steal the ball from the former Brighton striker.

But it was a let-off for the U's as the ball squeezed through Eastwood's legs before being cleared by Aaron Martin.

Shaky in defence and blunt up front, United finally forced keeper Craig Ross into a save a minute later, albeit a straightforward one for the Macclesfield stopper.

Danny Whitaker pulled all the strings in midfield for the Silkmen and, on the half-hour mark, he set up Paul Lewis who could only blast his effort wide. Lewis continued to cause problems from midfield.

Lewis and captain Andy Halls went close for John Askey's men, who knocked out League One Walsall in the 1st round, just before half-time as a disgruntled Appleton looked on.

Marvin Johnson struck the bar with a deflected cross at the start of the second half but Macclesfield continued to pepper the Oxford backline with crosses, corners and shots – Jack Mackreth, in particular, caused problems for the Football League side's defence.

United nearly took the lead against the run of play on 68 minutes but, from a set piece, Dunkley shaved the outside of the post. Tyler Roberts should have put Oxford ahead two minutes later but Ross got down well to deny the on-loan West Brom striker's scuffed finish.

But Macclesfield did not relent and could have forced a winner on 78 minutes when Eastwood had to be at his best to thwart Lewis before Mackreth crashed an effort against the post with 10 minutes to go.

The two sides meet again at the Kassam on Tuesday and the club have reduced ticket prices for the tie.

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